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2819-223

The Laws of the 2d Seſsion of the 12th General Aſsembly are bound up in volumes by mistake instead of the Minutes of that Seſsion – see the ⊕ Seſsion of the Minutes Bound up in the front of the next succeeding volume

2819-223

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE NINTH

General Aſſembly

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA on MONDAY, the
Twenty Fifth day of *October*, in the Year of our LORD,
One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty Four.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY FRANCIS BAILEY, at YORICK'S HEAD
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MDCCLXXXIV.

Lewis

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Ninth General Aſſembly

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Monday*, the Twenty Fifth Day of *October*, in the Year of our LORD One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty Four.

Monday, October 25, 1784.

THIS being the day appointed by the Conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen elected as Repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly, but not being a quorum they

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 26, 1784. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday,

Wedneſday, October 27, 1784, P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,
Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 28, 1784, A. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,
Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Friday, October 29, 1784. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,
Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, October 30, 1784. A. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,
Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, November 1, 1784. A. M.

A number of gentlemen ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum appeared whereupon,
Adjourned until three o'clock, P, M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

A number of gentlemen appeared ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, and,

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That the returns for the city and the ſeveral counties which had come to hand, ſhould be read—which was accordingly done, and the queſtion being taken on each, *viz.* "*Is this return of repre-*" *ſentatives legal?*" was carried in the affirmative, except on the return for the county of *Lancaſter*, which was carried in the negative—and on the return for the county of *Northumberland*, it was

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to morrow morning.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 2, 1784. A, M.

A number of gentlemen appeared, whereupon

On motion, The conſideration of the return of repreſentatives for the county of *Northumberland* was reſumed; and on the queſtion, "*Is the ſaid*" *return of Repreſentatives legal?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

It then appeared, that the following gentlemen were duly elected, *viz.*

For the City of PHILADELPHIA.
Charles Pettit,
William Moore,
John Bayard,
Frederick Kuhl,
William Will.

For the County of PHILADELPHIA,
Jacob Engle,
Elias Boys,
James Vanſant,
Manuel Eyre,
William Coats.

For the County of BUCKS.
Thomas Long,
John Clark,
Joſeph Thomas,
John Keller,
Arthur Erwin.

For the County of CHESTER.
Richard Willing,
Anthony Wayne,
Edward Jones,
Robert Ralſton,
Joſeph Strawbridge,
Perſifor Frazer,
Thomas Potts
Charles Humphreys.

For the County of YORK.
Robert M‘Pherſon,
Henry Miller,
John Hay,
Philip Gardner.
James Ewing,
David M‘Conaughy,
Henry Tyſon,
Joſeph Lilly.

For the County of CUMBERLAND.
Frederick Watts,
John Harris,
William Brown,
Robert Whitehill.

For the County of BERKS.
Nicholas Lutz,
Abraham Lincoln,
Chriſtian Lower,
Henry Spyker,
David Davis,
Matthias Rhoads.

For the County of NORTHAMPTON.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Peter Burkhalter,
Robert Brown,
Jonas Hartzel,
John Ralſton.

For the County of BEDFORD.
George Woods,
Robert Cluggage.

For the County of NORTHUMBD.
Frederick Antes,
Daniel Montgomery,
Samuel Deal,

For the County of WASHINGTON.
Matthew Ritchie,
John Stevenſon.

For the County of FRANKLIN.
James Johnſton,
Abraham Smith,
James M‘Calmont.

Eor the County of MONTGOMERY.
Peter Richards,
Robert Lollar,
George Smith,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe.

No returns have been received from the Counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Fayette.*

Adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 3, 1784. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives being now met, *viz.*

Charles Pettit,
William Moore,
John Bayard,
Frederick Kuhl,
William Will,
Jacob Engle,
Elias Boys,
James Vanſant,
Manuel Eyre,
William Coats,
Thomas Long,
John Clark,
Joſeph Thomas,
John Keller,
Arthur Erwin,
Richard Willing,
Anthony Wayne,
Edward Jones,
Robert Ralſton,
Thomas Potts,
Robert M‘Pherſon,
John Hay,
Philip Gartner,
David M‘Conaughy,
Henry Tyſon,
Joſeph Lilly,
Frederick Watts,
William Brown,
Robert Whitehill,
Nicholas Lutz,
Abraham Lincoln,
Chriſtian Lower,
Henry Spyker,
David Davis,
Thomas Mawhorter,
Peter Burkhalter,
Robert Brown,
Jonas Hartzel,
John Ralſton,
Robert Cluggage,
Frederick Antes,
Daniel Montgomery,
Matthew Ritchie,
John Stevenſon,
James Johnſton,
Abraham Smith,
James M‘Calmont,
Peter Richards,
Robert Lollar,
George Smith,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe.

The Members preſent, proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the hon. *John Bayard*, eſq; was duly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair, and qualified conformably to the direction of the conſtitution.

On motion, *Reſolved*, that the following queſtions be aſked of the members ſeverally, previous to their being qualified to take their ſeats.

Firſt. Have you taken the oath or affirmation of allegiance to this ſtate, as preſcribed by law?

Second. Do you hold any office or place of truſt, not allowed by the conſtitution.

The members were then ſeverally qualified, according to the direction of the conſtitution, and admitted to their ſeats, having previouſly declared, that they had taken the oath or affirmation of allegiance, as preſcribed by law, and that they held no office nor place of truſt, not allowed by the conſtitution.

On motion, The Houſe proceeded to the election of a clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Samuel Bryan*, eſquire, was duly choſen.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That *Jacob Shallus*, eſquire, be aſſiſtant clerk.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a ſerjeant at arms and door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Nicholas Weaver* was duly elected ſerjeant at arms, and *Joſeph Fry*, door-keeper.

On motion, *Ordered*, that Mr. *Pettit* and Mr. *Moore*, be a committee to inform the Supreme Executive Council, that the Houſe being met, is ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

After ſome time the laſt-mentioned committee reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that the Council would have ſome buſineſs to lay before the Houſe immediately.

On motion, *Ordered*. That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *M‘Pherſon* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee to prepare a draught of proper rules and regulations, for conducting buſineſs in the Houſe.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *J. Thomas*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lower*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *G. Smith*, be a committee to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, with the ſeveral papers therein referred to, were preſented to the chair, and the meſſage read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is with pleaſure we inform you, that the dangerous obſtructions cauſed in the navigation of the river *Delaware* by the chevaux-de-frize, are now entirely removed. The Secretary will lay before you a letter and certificate from the wardens of this port upon that ſubject; as alſo, the proceedings of the Supreme Court in the caſe of *Charles Julian de Longchamps*, a letter from the Commiſſioners appointed to meet the *Indians*, an addreſs from the Grand Inqueſt of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and ſeveral papers relating to the diſturbances of *Wyoming*.

The Commiſſioners for running the boundary line between this State and *Virginia*, have been for ſome time, and ſtill are, employed in that ſervice.

There have been great irregularities in the elections for the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Northumberland*, as the right to a ſeat in Council, depends upon the return made to us from the former, and it is probable that the election of Repreſentatives will be conteſted. Reſpect to your honorable Houſe induces us to appoint a day for the attendance of the witneſſes, which we judged might be convenient for your examination of them. We accordingly appointed the eighth of *November*. A liſt of thoſe whom we have ordered to be ſummoned, will be herewith delivered.

The liberty, happineſs and honor, of the good people of this commonwealth, are ſo deeply intereſted in the freedom and purity of elections, that we ardently wiſh, the preſent regulations reſpecting them, may be taken into conſideration by the Legiſlature. Many inconveniencies might be avoided, if all the acts were reduced into one; and we rely on your wiſdom, for making further improvements to guard againſt artifices; that by corrupting the ſource of our laws, muſt be pernicious to the public welfare.

JOHN DICKINSON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, PHILAD.
November 1, 1784.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof, be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 4, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Samuul Bryan, eſquire, appearing at the table, was ſworn to the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

Jacob Shallus, eſquire, appearing at the table, was alſo ſworn to the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

The ſerjeant at arms and door-keeper, were ſeverally ſworn to the faithful performance of their reſpective offices.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and the ſeveral papers therein referred to, were alſo read.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſame be poſtponed.

On motion, An inſtrument purporting to be a return of Repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, and, on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, it was moved and ſeconded,
" *That the Gentlemen in the ſaid inſtrument, named as Repreſentatives, do take*
" *their ſeats.*"

Upon which the previous queſtion being moved and ſeconded, *viz.*

" *Shall the main queſtion be now put?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The following queſtion was then moved and ſeconded, *viz.*

" *Is the aforeſaid inſtrument a legal return?*" Which was carried in the negative. Whereupon,

It was moved and ſeconded, that the ſheriff of the county of *Lancaſter* be cited to appear at the bar of this Houſe, to ſhew cauſe wherefore a legal return of Repreſentatives for the ſaid county, hath not been made.

After ſome time ſpent in debating the ſame,

Ordered, that the further conſideration thereof, be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

A number of Repreſentatives met, but not being ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum
Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 5, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee for examining the Laws and Minutes of the Houſe, preparing them for publication, and correcting them at the preſs.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Long*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Ritchie*, be a committee to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee of Accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be, and hereby are empowered, to ſend for perſons and papers.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Eyres*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Watts*, be a committee to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council for the enſuing year.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion reſpecting the election of Repreſentatives in the county of *Lancaſter*, poſtponed yeſterday; whereupon,

Ordered, That *Thomas Edwards*, eſquire, high ſheriff of the county of *Lancaſter*, be cited to appear at the bar of this Houſe on *Tueſday* next, the ninth inſtant, to ſhew cauſe wherefore a legal return of Repreſentatives for the preſent year for ſaid county, hath not been made.

Ordered, That *Archibald Steel*, *Jacob Bailey*, *John Jordan*, *Daniel Franks*, *Matthew M'Clung*, *Hugh Peden*, *Joſeph Jenkins*, *Benjamin Moore*, *George M'Laughlin*, *M'Laughlin*, *William Montgomery*, *John Jago*, *George Græff*, *Henry Dering* and *Abraham Witmer*, be alſo cited to appear at the bar of this Houſe on *Tueſday* next, the ninth inſtant, then and there to anſwer all ſuch queſtions as ſhall be aſked them, reſpecting the election aforeſaid.

The committee appointed to confer with Council, reſpecting the time and place for holding the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, reported, that Council recommends the Aſſembly room as the moſt convenient place for that purpoſe, that they leave the appointment of the time to the Houſe; and that they propoſe the following order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER *of* PROCESSION.

Conſtables with their ſtaves.
Sub-ſheriffs with their wands.
High-ſheriff and Coroner with their wands.
Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.
Attorney-General and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.
Marſhal of the Admiralty.
Judge and Regiſter of the Admiralty.
Naval-Officer.
Treaſurer and Comptroller-General.
Secretary of the Land-Office.
Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and Clerk of the Quarter-Seſſions.
Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls, and Regiſter of Wills.
Secretary of the Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and the Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms with the Mace.
Honorable the Speaker of the General-Aſſembly.
Clerk of the General-Aſſembly.
Members of the General-Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General-Aſſembly.
Provoſt and faculty of the Univerſity.
Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

Whereupon, *Reſolved*, That the Houſe approve of the place and order of proceſſion as above-mentioned, and that the election take place to-morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Erwin*, Mr. *Potts*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Stevenſon*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee of grievances, and that they be, and hereby are empowered, to ſend for perſons, papers and records.

Samuel Dale, eſq; elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, *Ordered*, that Mr. *Coats* be appointed to receive the fines that may be incurred by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

A petition from *John Forſyth*, was read, praying to be appointed recorder of deeds, in, and for the county of *York*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Slater*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 6, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John Harris, eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Cumberland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, *Reſolved*, that this Houſe will on *Tueſday* next proceed to the appointment of a Printer or Printers, for the current year.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the election of Delegates to repreſent this State in Congreſs, and that the nomination of perſons for Delegates, continue until the day of election.

A petition from *John Linington* was read, praying to be continued meaſurer of lumber, intended for exportation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter, elders and others of the *Preſbyterian* church in *Abington* townſhip in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, that the clerk inform the Supreme Executive Council, that the Houſe is ready to proceed to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident.

After ſome time the clerk reported, that the Supreme Executive Council was ready to proceed to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, and accordingly they were introduced into the Aſſembly chamber.

Agreeably to the order of the day, and conformably to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, the Houſe proceeded in conjunction with the Supreme Executive Council, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, and elected by ballot, His Excellency *John Dickinſon*, eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable *James Irvine*, eſquire, Vice-Preſident for the enſuing year, and ſeverally ſigned and ſealed a declaration thereof: Whereupon the Supreme Executive Council retired to their own chamber.

The Houſe then attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident at the Court-houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and having returned to the Aſſembly chamber, they

Adjourned till 9 o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *November* 8, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment

Petitions from *John Jacob Sluyter* and *Walter William Harris*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read; praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Henry Shillenberg*, and *Michael Gregg*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the county of *Bucks*, were ſeverally read; praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Perſifor Frazer, eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter*, appearing in the Houſe, was duly qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *John Morris*, was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of ſtaves, intended for exportation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the late election for repreſentatives in the ſaid county, and praying to be heard at the bar of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the managers of the State Lottery, was read, together with their memorial preſented to the late Houſe, *Auguſt* 3d laſt, and praying this Houſe to take the ſame into immediate conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a committee of the public creditors of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, was read, referring to their former memorials, and praying that ſuch funds may be appropriated, as ſhall be adequate to their relief, until each ſtate in the union ſhall comply with the requiſitions of Congreſs for a fœderal treaſury.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Wright*, was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe, in and for the county of *Bucks*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Cunningham*, was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe, in and for the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Stokely*, was read, praying to be appointed regiſter of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Waſhington*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Clement Humphreys*, was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of lumber, intended for exportation from the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was read, together with its encloſures, relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Kuhl*, and Mr. *Harris*, be a committee to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, and the ſeveral papers therein referred to, poſtponed, *November* 4. Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Kuhl*, and Mr. *Harris*, be a committee to arrange and report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, "To inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs," made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Fayette*, was preſented to the ſpeaker, and read, by which it appeared that *John Smiley*, eſq. is the legal repreſentative for the ſaid county, for the enſuing year.

John Smiley, eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Fayette*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

Petitions from *William Thomas*, *Warren Pitt Liſle*, and *Enoch Morgan*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *James Murray*, was read, ſetting forth, that under a reſolve of the honorable the Congreſs, he was appointed, by *Samuel Hunter*, eſq. lieutenant of the county of *Northumberland*, a captain, and ordered to raiſe a company of foot, that in order to expedite the buſineſs, he and the officers under his command, had advanced conſiderable ſums of money, amounting, in the whole, to £.561 1 0½ reduced to ſpecie, and praying that the Houſe would grant him, together with the ſaid officers, a compenſation therefor, in lands within the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the public creditors within the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, read in the forenoon, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read in the forenoon, on the unfiniſhed buſineſs of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Frazer*, and Mr. *Dale*, be a committee to report ſuch of the buſineſs contained in the ſaid report, as they may deem neceſſary, for the immediate conſideration of the Houſe.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Smiley*, be added to the committee on ways and means.

The memorials of the managers of the State Lottery, read in the forenoon, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Eyre*, and Mr. *Potts*, be a committee to report thereon.

The petition of *John Forſyth*, read *November* 5, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Harris*, and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *A. Smith*, and Mr. *Ritchie*, be a committee to bring in a bill, to carry into effect, the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt the the United States.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 9, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *William Harlan*, *John Pyle*, *Zad Hurlbut* and *Elijah Brown*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions and remonſtrances from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the return of repreſentatives made by the ſheriff, for the ſaid county, and praying that the perſons duly elected, may be admitted to take their ſeats.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bradford*, was read, praying to be appointed printer of the bills ordered to be publiſhed for conſideration, and the laws, which ſhall be enacted by the preſent Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Hall* and *Sellers*, was read, praying to be appointed printers of the minutes of the preſent Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for the choice of printers for the preſent year, be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that the nomination take place in the mean time.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee to bring in a bill for the regular relief of inſolvent debtors.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the late election for repreſentatives in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Thomas Edwards, eſq. ſheriff of the county of *Lancaſter*, and the ſeveral perſons ſummoned to appear at the bar of this Houſe, by the order of the 5th inſtant, to anſwer ſuch queſtions as ſhall be aſked them, reſpecting the late election held in the firſt diſtrict of the ſaid county, appearing—the Houſe, agreeably to the order of the day, then proceeded to the examination of them, and after ſome time ſpent on the ſubject of the petition.

Ordered, That the further hearing of the ſaid evidence, be poſtponed until ten o'clock to-morrow morning, at which time the witneſſes were ordered to attend.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Philip Stein* and *James Crawford*, be cited to appear at the bar of this Houſe, to-morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to anſwer all ſuch queſtions as ſhall be aſked them, reſpecting the late election for repreſentatives in the county of *Lancaſter*.

The honorable the Supreme Executive Council, tranſmitted to this Houſe, ſundry papers reſpecting the late election of repreſentatives held in the county of *Lancaſter*, among which were the ſeveral returns from the ſix diſtricts of ſaid county, and the tally papers and liſt of voters names of three of them.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 10, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the choice of printers for the enſuing year, when the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Francis Bailey*, was duly elected printer of the minutes of the Houſe, and *Thomas Bradford*, unanimouſly elected printer of the bills publiſhed for conſideration, and the laws which may be enacted. *James*

James Ewing, eſq. elected a repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing the Houſe, was duly qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, The Houſe reſumed the hearing of the witneſſes, reſpecting the late election for repreſentatives in the county of *Lancaſter* and after ſome time ſpent on the ſubject of the buſineſs,

Ordered, That the further hearing of the witneſſes, be poſtponed until three o'clock this afternoon, at which time the witneſſes were ordered to attend.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, The houſe reſumed the hearing of the witneſſes, reſpecting the late election for Repreſentatives in the county of *Lancaſter*, when the ſame was compleated.

A petition ſigned by 14 inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, remonſtrating againſt the late election held in the ſecond, fifth and ſixth diſtricts of the county of *Lancaſter*, encloſing a liſt of witneſſes to be ſummoned, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the ſheriff of the county of *Lancaſter*, produce to this Houſe, at ten o'clock to-morrow morning, the liſt of the names of ſuch perſons who voted at the ſeveral diſtricts of the ſaid county, at the late election for Repreſentatives, and ſuch other documents relative to the ſaid election, as the law requires ſhould be made and preſerved on ſuch occaſions.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 11, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Matthias Rhoads*, eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, praying leave to decline taking his ſeat as a member of this Houſe, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for the election of delegates to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs, be poſtponed until *Saturday* next, and that the nomination of perſons for delegates continue until that day,

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was preſented to the chair and read, by which it appeared, that *William Finley, William Todd and Thomas Morton*, eſqrs. were the legal Repreſentatives for the ſaid county for the enſuing year, thereupon

William Finley and William Todd, eſqrs. appearing in the houſe, were qualified conformably to the direction of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A letter from *George Woods*, eſqr. elected a repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Tolbet*, was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of lumber intended for exportation, from the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Martin* was read, ſetting forth, that the chain of title to a certain lot of ground in the town of *Chamberſburg*, is broke by the loſs of a deed from *James Elliot*, to the ſaid *John Martin*, and praying leave to bring in a bill to remedy the aforeſaid defect.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Archibald* and *John Blair*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read; praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The ſheriff of the county of *Lancaſter* appearing at the bar, was called upon to produce the papers required of him, by the order of yeſterday; he anſwered, that he is not, nor ever has been in poſſeſſion of them, but that he, upon the receipt of the order of the Houſe, had made application for them to the judges of the reſpective diſtricts of *Lancaſter* county, who are now in the city of *Philadelphia*, and he was informed by them, that they had laid all the papers that were in their cuſtody, reſpecting the election of the ſaid county, before the Supreme Executive Council; whereupon,

Ordered, that the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to furniſh the Houſe with all ſuch documents and other papers as are in their poſſeſſion reſpecting the late election for Repreſentatives held in the county of *Lancaſter*.

A certified extract of the above order, was then tranſmitted by the clerk, to the Supreme Executive Council.

The petition remonſtrating againſt the late election held in the ſecond, fifth and ſixth diſtricts in the county of *Lancaſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That the ſigners of the ſaid petition be now called upon, in order that they, or ſome of them, may ſpecify the general charges ſuggeſted in the ſaid petition, and the perſons againſt whom the ſame were pointed, to the end, that the Houſe may receive the neceſſary information, to take further order thereon.

The names of the petitioners were then ſeverally called over, and none of the petitioners anſwering, it was thereupon

Ordered, That ſuch of the petitioners aforeſaid, as may be at preſent in the city of *Philadelphia*, be notified to attend at the bar of this Houſe to-morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpoſe contained in the above reſolution.

The honorable the Supreme Executive tranſmitted the ſundry papers reſpecting the late election of *Lancaſter* county.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Smiley*, be a committee to arrange the papers on the diſputed election of *Lancaſter* county.

The committee appointed the 9th inſtant, to whom were referred the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, together with its incloſures, made report, which was read; and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed the 8th inſtant, on the memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, reported a bill entitled, " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* An Act for raiſing by way of Lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand " dollars, for improving the public roads, leading from the city of *Philadelphia* " to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards the improving the navigation " of the river *Schuylkill*," which was read the firſt time; and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, that the city members be a committee to bring in a bill for the better ſecuring the city of *Philadelphia* and its liberties, from danger of gun-powder.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Richards*, be a committee to reviſe the election laws, and bring in a bill for the better regulation of the annual elections.

The committee appointed in the forenoon, to arrange the papers of the late *Lancaſter* election, brought them in arranged.

A judge from each of the ſix diſtricts in the county of *Lancaſter*, who officiated at the late general election for repreſentatives, attending, the ſeveral diſtrict returns were then by order ſhewn them, and the following queſtion ſeverally aſked. "*Is this the ſame return ſigned by you and the other judges and inſpectors* "*of your diſtrict?*" and by them ſeverally declared in the affirmative.

Ordered, That ſuch of the judges aforeſaid, as have not produced all their documents reſpecting the ſaid election, be required to tranſmit them to this Houſe, on or before *Tueſday* the 23d inſtant.

Ordered, That the witneſſes attending at the bar, reſpecting the aforeſaid election, be diſcharged from further attendance.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, together with the reſignation incloſed, of *James Marſhel*, eſq. regiſter of wills and recorder of deeds, for the county of *Waſhington*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 12, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Joſeph Strawbridge, eſq. elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe yeſterday, reported a bill entitled "*An Act for the better ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *from danger of gun-*"*powder, and for building a new powder-houſe*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The ſigners of the petition remonſtrating againſt the late election held in the ſecond, fifth and ſixth diſtricts, in the county of *Lancaſter*, not appearing agreeably to the order of yeſterday, to make a ſpecification of the general charges contained in the ſaid petition, and againſt whom they were pointed, although as this Houſe is well informed, divers of them were in this city, who were appriſed of the ſaid order. Whereupon, a motion was made and ſeconded, as follows, *viz.*

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid petition, be poſtponed until further application from the petitioners, or ſome of them be made to this Houſe.

It was then moved and ſeconded, to ſtrike out the words "*until further* "*application from the petitioners, or ſome of them, be made to this Houſe.*"

Whereupon, the yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and were as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Thomas Potts*,

YEAS.

6. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
7. *Henry Miller*,
8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *Robert Cluggage,*
15. *Matthew Ritchie.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *Elias Boys,*
7. *James Vanſant,*
8. *Manuel Eyre,*
9. *William Coats,*
10. *Thomas Long,*
11. *John Clark,*
12. *Joſeph Thomas,*
13. *John Keller,*
14. *Arthur Erwin,*
15. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
16. *Perſifor Frazer,*
17. *Frederick Watts,*
18. *John Harris,*
19. *William Brown,*
20. *Robert Whitehill,*
21. *Nicholas Lutz,*
22. *Abraham Lincoln,*
23. *Chriſtian Lower,*
24. *Henry Spyker,*
25. *David Davis,*
26. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
27. *Robert Brown,*
28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *John Ralſton,*
30. *Frederick Antes,*
31. *Daniel Montgomery,*
32. *Samuel Dale,*
33. *William Finley,*
34. *William Todd,*
35. *John Stevenſon,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *Abraham Smith,*
39. *James M'Calmont,*
40. *Peter Richards,*
41. *Robert Lollar,*
42. *George Smith.*
43. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The queſtion was then put on the motion as originally made, and carried in the affirmative.

On motion, The depoſitions of the witneſſes reſpecting the late election held in *Lancaſter* county, were then read, whereupon,

Reſolved, That it appears to this Houſe, that many and great frauds have been practiſed in conducting the late election of the firſt diſtrict of *Lancaſter* county, and in making up the return; particularly by adding a great number of tallies, for which no votes were received by the inſpectors.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, The return of the late election held in the firſt diſtrict of *Lancaſter* county was read, whereupon,

Reſolved, That it appears to this Houſe, that not more than 1683 votes were delivered to the inſpectors of the election, and received during the poll in the ſaid firſt diſtrict.

It was then, on motion made and ſeconded, further

Reſolved, That it appears clearly to this Houſe by the returns of the judges and inſpectors, duly ſigned and produced at the borough of *Lancaſter* according to law, that in the five other diſtricts, the following number of votes were received by the inſpectors for the following perſons, *viz.*

For *James Mercer,*	2659	*Emanuel Carpenter,*	1079
John Craig,	2631	*Peter Grubb,* jun.	1020
Adam Orth,	2660	*Alexander Lowrey*	116
Samuel Boyd,	2607	*Abraham Scott,*	114
Joſeph Montgomery,	1627	*William Parr,*	112
James Porter,	2617	*Joſeph Work,*	103
William Stoey,	2642	*Andrew Graff,*	112
David Jenkins,	2078	*George Roſs,*	112
Robert Craig,	2605	*John Hopkins,*	109
Robert Clark,	2652	*James Morriſon,*	105
William Brown,	1856		

The following motion was then made and ſeconded, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *James Mercer, John Craig, Adam Orth, Samuel Boyd, James Porter, William Stoey, David Jenkins, Robert Craig, Robert Clark, Emanuel Carpenter* and *Peter Grubb,* junior, are duly elected Repreſentatives of the freemen of the county of *Lancaſter,* and that the Speaker notify them to attend their duty in this Houſe.

And on the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame.*”

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Smiley,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
15. *Frederick Watts,*
16. *John Harris,*
17. *William Brown,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Abraham Lincoln,*
21. *Chriſtian Lower,*

YEAS.

22. *Henry Spyker,*
23. *David Davis,*
24. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25. *Peter Burkhalter,*
26. *Robert Brown,*
27. *Jonas Hartzel,*
28. *John Ralſton,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*
30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *Samuel Dale,*
32. *William Finley,*
33. *William Todd,*
34. *John Stevenſon,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *James Johnſton,*
37. *Abraham Smith,*
38. *James M‘Calmont,*
39. *Peter Richards,*
40. *Robert Lollar,*
41. *George Smith,*
42. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*

NAYS.

5. *Thomas Potts,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

9. *David M'Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*

NAYS.

12. *Robert Cluggage,*
13. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 13, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *John Shields* and *Thomas M'Carty*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read; praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Leet* was read; praying to be appointed regiſter of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Waſhington.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Pritchard* was read; praying to be appointed auctioneer for the ſale of books, within the city of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Long,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Vanſant,* have leave of abſence until *Tueſday* next.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the order of the day for the election of Delegates to repreſent this State in Congreſs, be further poſtponed until *Tueſday* next, and that the nomination continue until that day.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Mercer,* Mr. *W. Brown* and Mr. *Richards,* be a committee to bring in a bill to regulate the appointment of Delegates to ſerve in Congreſs.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Finley,* be a committee to bring in a bill for eſtabliſhing a regular mode of granting divorces.

The bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the act entitled, An Act for raiſing by* "*way of Lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the pub-* "*lic roads, leading from the city of* Philadelphia, *to the weſtern parts of this* "*State, and towards the improving the navigation of the river* Schuylkill," read *November* 11th inſtant, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 15, 1784. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from His Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, together with a letter from *Charles Thomſon,* eſquire, incloſed, requeſting the forwarding of the Delegates to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, incloſing the following bills for the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

1. The bill entitled, "*An Act for quieting poſſeſſions and avoiding ſuits in law.*"
2. The bill entitled, "*An Act for the better regulation of juries.*

3d.

3. The bill entitled, "*An Act for the better ſecuring liberty, and preventing wrongful impriſonments.*"

4. The bill entitled, "*An Act for the amendment of the law in ſeveral particulars, the prevention of vexatious ſuits, and for the better advancement of juſtice.*"

5. The bill entitled, "*An Act for preſerving the privilege of public miniſters of foreign Princes and States.*"

The petition of *Thomas Stokely*, read *November* 8th inſtant, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a regiſter of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Waſhington*.

The petition of *John Lenington*, read *November* 6th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof, be poſtponed.

The petition of *William Irvine*, eſquire, *Mary Campleton* and *Samuel Higgins*, read in the late Houſe *September* 23d laſt, were ſeverally called up, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lydia Eyre* was read, ſetting forth, that the commiſſioners appointed by a reſolve of a former Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 31, 1778, had heard the claim of her late huſband *Jehu Eyre*, for timber and plank taken by the enemy, and afterwards converted to the uſe of the State, and determined and valued the ſame at 9443 *l.* 18 *ſ* 4 *d.* continental currency, which, according to the ſcale of depreciation, amounts to 393 *l.* 11 *ſ* 8 *d.* ſpecie, therefore praying payment of the ſaid ſum, or a certificate for the amount, bearing intereſt from the date of the ſaid valuation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Grubb*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *R. Brown*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Stevenſon*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee to aſcertain and report what number of copies of the Minutes and Laws may be proper to have printed, and the beſt mode of diſtributing the ſame.

The committee appointed *November* 8th inſtant, on the petition of *John Forſyth*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th inſtant, to report ſuch of the buſineſs contained in the report of the committee appointed "*To reviſe the Minutes of*" "*the late Houſe, and to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs,*" as they may deem neceſſary, for the immediate conſideration of the Houſe, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 16, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Chriſtie* was read, praying to be continued collector of exciſe in, and for the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the honorable *Joſeph Reed*, *Cadwalader Morris*, *William Montgomery*, *Joſeph Gardner* and *William Henry* (of Lancaſter) eſquires, were duly elected.

A petition from *Joſeph Cauffman* was read, praying to be appointed health-officer for the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee to whom were referred the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, together with its encloſures, which was read the firſt time the 11th inſtant, was read the ſecond time and debated: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to confer with this Houſe on the affairs at *Wyoming*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Smiley* be a committee to wait on the honorable the Supreme Executive Council with the above reſolution, and requeſt them to fix the time of the conference.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read; praying a law may be paſſed empowering the wardens of the ſaid city to build and extend the Market-houſe in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, and for levying a tax on the inhabitants of the ſaid city to defray the expences thereof, and enabling them to borrow money in the mean time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of manufacturers and mechanics of the city of *Philadelphia* and its vicinity was read; praying a law may be paſſed, impoſing certain duties on ſuch articles imported, which may be manufactured within this State.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers citizens of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the thirty eighth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth enjoins, that " *The penal laws as heretofore uſed, ſhall be re-*
" *formed by the legiſlature of this State as ſoon as may be, and puniſhments made*
" *in ſome caſes leſs ſanguinary, and in general, more proportionate to crimes;*"
and, that the thirty-ninth ſection declares, that " *To deter more effectually,*
" *from the commiſſion of crimes, by continued viſible puniſhment of long duration,*
" *and to make ſanguinary puniſhments the leſs neceſſary, houſes ought to be provided*
" *for puniſhing by hard labour, thoſe who ſhall be convicted of crimes not capital,*
" *wherein the criminals ſhall be employed for the benefit of the public, or for reparation of*
" *injuries done to private perſons, &c.*" was read; praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and enact ſuch laws as may tend to the good purpoſes expreſſed in the ſaid ſections of the conſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to wait upon the Supreme Executive Council with the reſolution of this morning, requeſting a conference with Council, reported, their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would be ready to hold the propoſed conference to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

The report in part of the committee appointed to report ſuch of the buſineſs contained in the report of the committee appointed " *To reviſe the Minutes of*
" *the late Houſe, and to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs*" as they may deem neceſſary for the immediate conſideration of the Houſe, which was read the firſt time yeſterday, was read a ſecond time and debated by paragraphs, whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Ewing* and Mr.

Whitehill, be a committee to reviſe the impoſt laws, and report a bill reſpecting the ſame.

Ordered, That Mr. *Coates*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Miller*, be a committee to report on the bill read in the late Houſe, *September* 22 laſt, entitled, “ *An* “ *additional Supplement to the act entitled,* “ *An Act for regulating and eſtabliſhing admiralty juriſdiction.*”

It was moved and ſeconded, “ that the bill entitled, “ *An Act to extend* “ *the act and its Supplements, giving time to certain debtors to pay off the principal* “ *of the debts contracted before the firſt day of* June, 1777,” be referred to a committee to report thereon.

And on the queſtion, “ *Shall a committee be appointed agreeably to the foregoing motion.*” The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *M‘Conaughy* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Richard Willing*,
14. *Edward Jones*,
15. *Robert Ralſton*,
16. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
17. *Perſifor Frazer*,
18. *Thomas Potts*,
19. *James Mercer*,
20. *Henry Tyſon*,
21. *Frederick Watts*,

YEAS.

22. *John Harris*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Abraham Lincoln*,
25. *Chriſtian Lower*,
26. *Henry Spyker*,
27. *David Davis*,
28. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
29. *Peter Burkhalter*,
30. *Jonas Hartzel*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Daniel Montgomery*,
33. *Samuel Dale*,
34. *William Finley*,
35. *William Todd*,
36. *John Stevenſon*,
37. *John Smiley*,
38. *Abraham Smith*,
39. *Peter Richards*,
40. *Robert Lollar*,
41. *George Smith*.

NAYS.

1. *Manuel Eyre*,
2. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
3. *Henry Miller*,
4. *John Hay*,
5. *Philip Gartner*,
6. *James Ewing*,
7. *David M‘Conaughy*,
8. *Joſeph Lilly*,

NAYS.

9. *William Brown*,
10. *Robert Whitehill*,
11. *Robert Brown*,
12. *John Ralſton*,
13. *Robert Cluggage*,
14. *Matthew Ritchie*,
15. *James M‘Calmont*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Whereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Dale*, be a committee to report on the ſaid bill.

Ordered, That the bill entitled “ *An Act for preſerving the privileges of* “ *public miniſters of foreign Princes and States, read in the late Houſe,*” be referred to Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Ewing*, and Mr. *Johnſton*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill entitled, “ *A Supplement to the act entitled,* “ *An*

“ *Act for regulating, pitching, paving and cleanſing the high-ways, ſtreets, lanes* “ *and alleys, and for regulating, making and amending the water-courſes and* “ *common ſewers, within the inhabited and ſettled parts of the city of* Philadelphia, *for raiſing of money to defray the expences thereof, and for other purpoſes* “ *therein mentioned,*” read in the late Houſe, *Sept.* 23d laſt, be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill entitled, “ *An Act for erecting and opening a Loan-* “ *Office, and for emitting the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds in bills of credit on loan,*” read in the late Houſe, *Sept.* 27th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *J. Ralſton* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill entitled, “ *An Act to inveſt Congreſs with certain* “ *powers for the regulation of commerce,*”read in the late Houſe, *Sept.* 24th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Potts*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill entitled, “ *An Act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania “ *volunteers and eighteen-months-men, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” read in the late Houſe, *Sept.* 13th laſt. be referred to Mr. *Keller*, Mr. *Gartner*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr.*Todd* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 17, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Preſley Nevill* was read, praying to be appointed regiſter of wills, *&c.* and recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Waſhington*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Rice* was read, praying to be appointed health-officer for the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *M'Pherſon*, have leave of abſence.

A letter from *Cadwalader Morris*, eſq. elected a Delegate to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States was read, praying leave to reſign the ſaid appointment, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered that his reſignation be accepted.

A petition from *James Anderſon*, jun. and *John Hubley*, in behalf of themſelves and *John Marſhall*, ſetting forth, that agreeably to an act of Aſſembly paſſed the ſecond day of *April* 1779, they proceeded to liquidate, ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the agents for forfeited eſtates, lieutenants and ſub-lieutenants of the county of *Lancaſter*, and continued to perform that ſervice until by another act of Aſſembly paſſed the firſt day of *March* 1780, their appointment ceaſed, that by the ſaid firſt recited act, their daily pay was fixed at 3 *l.* that at the time their appointment ceaſed, continental money depreciated ſo far as to reduce their allowance to not more than one ſhilling *per diem*, was read; praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bond*, ſon of *Thomas Bond*, late practitioner in phyſic, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that his ſaid father, viſited a number of the ſick neutrals or Acadians, and adminiſtered medicines to them, by direction of the Aſſembly of the late province of *Pennſylvania*, and ſtating, that a conſiderable ſum of money remains ſtill due to the eſtate of his ſaid father, for thoſe ſervices, *&c.* and praying this Houſe to order payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Smiley* be a committee to wait on the Supreme Executive Council and inform them, that it is the wiſh of the Houſe to poſtpone the conference agreed upon yeſterday until to-morrow at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

The aforeſaid committee after ſome time, reported their performance of that ſervice, and that Council agree to the poſtponement.

On motion, *Reſolved*, that on all future elections of officers made by the General Aſſembly, no one ſhall be deemed duly choſen unleſs he has a majority of the votes of the Members preſent, and in caſe there ſhall be more than two candidates for any office, and neither of them ſhould have ſuch a majority of votes at the firſt balloting, then that the two higheſt in votes ſhall be next balloted for.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a regiſter for the probate of wills, and granting of letters of adminiſtration, and recorder of deeds in and for the county of *Waſhington*, and the ballots being taken, it appeared, that *Thomas Stokely*, eſq. was duly elected.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Miller*. Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *A. Smith*, be a committee to arrange the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, and to aſcertain and report to the Houſe the moſt ſuccinct and beſt mode of obtaining a general knowledge of the ſubject-matter of them.

A Member preſented to the chair, a motion reſpecting the payment of certain ballances due to individuals in State money, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *John Forſter* and *William Peel*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers priſoners confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, for their fines and fees, was read; praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Moore* was read; praying to be appointed health-officer for the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of the mechanic's and tradeſmen in the city of *Philadelphia* and its vicinity, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Ewing* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 3d inſtant, reported a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion read this morning, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

" Whereas, the hon. the Supreme Executive Council, by meſſage to the late
" General Aſſembly, dated the fifth day of *Auguſt* laſt, repreſented, that they are
" reſtrained from ordering payment of certain balances which are due to indi-
" viduals in State money, on ſettlement of their accounts by the comptroller-
" general, *and whereas* the reſolutions alluded to, are contained in the reſolu-

“ tions of Aſſembly of the twenty-fifth day of *June* 1781, therefore,
“ *Reſolved*, That ſo much of the reſolutions aforeſaid, as are contrary to
“ law, and prohibit the payment of balances due in State money by the com-
“ monwealth, be, and the ſame are hereby reſcinded.” Whereupon,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Jones*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *W. Brown* and Mr. *Stevenſon*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed to aſcertain and report what number of copies of the Minutes and Laws may be proper to have printed, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That there be 1200 copies of the Minutes and 1500 copies of the Laws printed,

Ordered, That the remainder of the ſaid report, relating to the mode of diſtribution, be recommitted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 18, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Hadley* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read; praying to be releaſed from his confinement, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Mercer*, and Mr. *Lincoln* be a committee to bring in a bill to empower the courts of law to liberate the perſons of debtors now confined in the gaols of the ſeveral counties of this State in proper caſes.

The committee appointed yeſterday to arrange the *Wyoming* papers, and to aſcertain and report to the Houſe, the moſt ſuccinct and beſt mode of obtaining a general knowledge of the ſubject-matter of them; made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, His Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council were introduced, and ſome time having been ſpent in a free conference on the propoſed ſubject, the Council withdrew.

A letter from the comptroller-general of this State was read, repreſenting that by the act of the General Aſſembly inſtituting the office of *comptroller-general*, paſſed the 13th day of *April* 1782, the ſettlement of all accounts of this State (except thoſe of the county treaſurers and collectors of taxes) comes under his notice. That in adjuſting thoſe accounts, there ſometimes ariſe caſes both of *law* and *fact*; to determine which, he muſt in his deciſion, have added charges, and rejected or reduced credits againſt the accountant or party which they conceived ought not to be done. That although he hath ſettled very many accounts ſince he came into office, he hath not and could not bring himſelf to determine ultimately and finally upon any accounts and to inforce the execution thereof in caſes where the party conſidered himſelf aggrieved and injured by his judgment. That he conceives every perſon in *Pennſylvania* is entitled to the invaluable privilege of trial by jury in all controverſies reſpecting property. That by the law erecting this office, there is no appeal allowed the party to this tryal, when diſſatisfied. Therefore, praying the attention of the Houſe to this important buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 19, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe, whereupon the ſame were debated by paragraphs, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

RULES *agreed upon by the Ninth General Aſſembly of the State of* Pennſylvania, *for the preſervation of order in the Houſe.*

1. When the Speaker aſſumes the chair, the Members ſhall ſeverally take their ſeats.

2. At the firſt meeting of the Houſe in each day, the Minutes of the preceding day ſhall be read and conſidered; after which, any buſineſs properly addreſſed to the Houſe or to the Speaker, by petition or otherwiſe, may be preſented.

3. Every Member who ſhall preſent a petition, memorial or other matter to the Houſe, ſhall, in his place, by reading or otherwiſe, inform the Houſe of the general ſcope and tendency thereof.

4. Every petition, memorial, letter or other matter of the like kind, properly introduced and read in the Houſe, on which no order ſhall have been moved for, ſhall be deemed of courſe, as remaining on the table for further conſideration, and may be taken up at any future time.

5. When a motion ſhall have been made *viva voce*, and ſeconded, it ſhall be repeated by the Speaker; or, if it be in writing, it ſhall be delivered to the Speaker, and afterwards read to the Houſe. The Speaker, at the requeſt of any two Members, or on his own apprehenſion of propriety, ſhall order any motion to be reduced to writing, before a queſtion be put on it; and the Member who ſhall have made any motion, may withdraw it at any time before a deciſion is given by the Houſe.

6. When any motion is regularly before the Houſe, the debate and deciſion thereon, ſhall not be interrupted by the admiſſion of any other motion, except it be for the previous queſtion, or for amending, poſtponing, or committing the original motion or ſubject in debate; nor ſhall any new propoſition or motion be admitted by way of amendment, or ſubſtitute for ſuch original motion while the ſame is depending.

7. The previous queſtion (which ſhall always be underſtood to be, *Shall the main queſtion be now put?*) or a motion for *the* poſtponement, or for commitment of the ſubject in debate, ſhall preclude all amendments and further debate on the main queſtion or original ſubject, until ſuch motion be decided on; provided, that the ſaid previous queſtion ſhall not in any caſe be admitted, unleſs four or more Members ſhall deſire it.

8. When a report which ſhall have been read and laid over for conſideration, ſhall be called for by any Member at a future day, it ſhall be taken up and read; but if two or more be called for at the ſame time, the Speaker ſhall determine which ſhall be preferred; or, if he ſhall think it proper, he may take the ſenſe of the Houſe thereon, which ſhall be given without debate.

9. Every queſtion ſhall be decided by a majority of votes of the Members preſent, excluſive of the Speaker; except in caſe of a tie, or equality of votes

on each ſide of the queſtion, in which caſe the Speaker ſhall give the caſting vote.

10. Every Member, when ſpeaking by way of motion, debate or argument, ſhall ſtand up, and addreſs himſelf reſpectfully to the Speaker of the Houſe, and, when he has cloſed his ſpeaking, ſhall retire to his ſeat.

11. When any Member ſhall be ſpeaking in addreſs to the Speaker of the Houſe, no other Member ſhall paſs between the Member ſpeaking and the chair, nor otherwiſe interrupt him, unleſs by requeſting the Speaker to call to order, which any Member may do when he ſhall think it neceſſary.

12. Every Member ſhall conduct himſelf with ſuch propriety and decorum as are requiſite for the preſervation of decency and good order; avoiding all unneceſſary private converſation in the Houſe, and eſpecially avoiding to name any other Member, or to introduce any perſonal reflections in the courſe of debate or argument.

13. If a debate ſhould happen to become tedious, and any four Members ſhall riſe and requeſt the Speaker to put the queſtion, he ſhall thereupon call for the ſenſe of the Houſe, whether the queſtion ſhall be then put or not, and proceed as the majority ſhall determine, either to put the queſtion, or to the hearing of further debate.

14. When ſecrecy ſhall be enjoined by the Speaker, by the deſire or with the approbation of a majority of the Houſe, reſpecting any buſineſs or debate in the Houſe, no member ſhall divulge the matter ſo enjoined to be kept ſecret, during the continuance of ſuch injunction.

15. If any Member ſhall tranſgreſs the rules of the Houſe, the Speaker, either on his own obſervation, or at the requeſt of any other Member, ſhall call to order; and if the diſorder be repeated or continued by the ſame perſon, the Speaker may thereupon call on the offending Member by name, in which caſe his conduct ſhall be taken into conſideration, and ſuch cenſure paſſed thereon, as to the Houſe ſhall ſeem proper; provided, however, that the Member charged with irregularity, ſhall have leave to ſpeak in explanation, or extenuation of his conduct, before the ſenſe of the Houſe be taken on it, but no debate ſhall be allowed in any ſuch caſe.

16. When a queſtion of order ſhall be moved, the Speaker may decide thereon, ſubject nevertheleſs to an appeal to the Houſe, if deſired by any two members; or the Speaker may, if he ſhall think proper, call for the ſenſe of the Houſe, before he gives his opinion on the queſtion.

17. Any Member, on motion, and obtaining leave to read a bill in his place, may, after ſuch reading, preſent the ſame to the Speaker; after which every ſuch bill ſhall be proceeded on as if it had been reported or preſented by a committee of the Houſe, but ſhall not be deemed to have had a firſt reading, till it ſhall have been again read by order of the Houſe.

18. On the firſt reading of a bill, report or other matter, requiring further conſideration before it be finally decided upon, no further debate ſhall be had than ſuch as may relate to the queſtion, whether the ſame ſhall lie on the table for further conſideration or not. All bills, reports, petitions and other papers belonging to the files of the Houſe, ſhall be open to the inſpection of the Members; but no Member ſhall carry any ſuch paper out of the Houſe, without leave firſt obtained from the Speaker.

19. The Speaker ſhall nominate ſuch Members as he ſhall think proper for committees, unleſs otherwiſe ordered by the Houſe. Any Member may nevertheleſs object to any ſuch nomination and offer reaſons for ſuch objection, or move for another mode of nomination; and in any ſuch caſe, the opinion of the Houſe ſhall govern.

20. Every Member having taken his ſeat in any ſeſſion, ſhall attend in the Houſe at the time to which it ſhall be adjourned from time to time during ſuch ſeſſion, or within half an hour thereafter, or on failure thereof, pay a fine of 2ſ 6*d.* for every ſuch failure. And in caſe there ſhould not be a quorum in the Houſe at any ſuch period, every Member ſo failing to attend, ſhall pay a fine of 5ſ. for every ſuch failure. And any Member who ſhall withdraw himſelf from the Houſe after any meeting and before adjournment, without leave of the Speaker, ſhall alſo pay a fine of 5ſ. *Provided always*, that reaſonable excuſes, of which the Houſe ſhall judge, be admitted in bar of any ſuch fine.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying a law may be paſſed empowering the wardens of the ſaid city to build and extend the Market-houſe in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, and for levying a tax on the inhabitants of the ſaid city, to defray the expences thereof, and to borrow money in the mean-time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Caſdrop* was read, praying to be appointed health-officer for the port of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the comptroller-general read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr *Finley* and Mr. *Johnſton*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Mawhorter* have leave of abſence until *Thurſday* next.

A petition from *William M'Dougall*, late a ſerjeant in the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment was read, ſetting forth, that whilſt in the actual ſervice of the United States, he hath incurred a ſevere fit of the palſy, which hath entirely diſabled him from procuring his livelihood; and praying relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Stevenſon* and Mr. *Johnſton*, be a committee to report a bill for the better regulation of juries.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Hay*, Mr. *R. Brown* and Mr. *Ritchie*, be a committee to bring in a bill for quieting poſſeſſions and avoiding ſuits in law.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Grubb*, be a committee to bring in a bill for the amendment of the law in ſeveral particulars, the prevention of vexatious ſuits, and for the better advancement of juſtice.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 16th inſtant, reported a bill entitled, " *An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the* " *United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this* " *commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th inſtant, to report ſuch of the buſineſs contained in the report of the committee appointed " *To reviſe the Minutes* " *of the late Houſe, and to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs,*" as they may deem neceſſary for the immediate conſideration of the Houſe; made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

On motion, *Ordered*, That the bill, read in the late Houſe, entitled, " A

" Supplement to an act entitled, " *An Act for raiſing county rates and levies,*" be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill entitled " An Act to amend an act entitled " *An* " *act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh meadow ground* " *therein deſcribed, ſituated in the townſhip of* Kingſeſſing *in the county of* Phi- " ladelphia, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to* " *raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof*," read in the late Houſe, *September* 14th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *R. Ralſton*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the foregoing report be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Mercer* be added to the committee appointed *November* 11th inſtant, to reviſe the election laws, and bring in a bill for the better regulation of the annual elections.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Grubb* be added to the committee of grievances.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Miller* be added to the committee on ways and means in the room of Mr. *M'Pherſon*.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 20, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *William Scott*, late paymaſter of the *York* county militia was read, ſetting forth, that in purſuance as he apprehended, of a reſolution of the General Aſſembly paſſed in the year 1777, he had allowed and paid the officers of the ſaid militia one ſhilling *per* gill of liquor, in lieu thereof, in proportion to the number of rations they were entitled to draw, and that a committee of the ſame Aſſembly had without heſitation, ſettled his accounts, but that the comptroller-general upon a re-ſettlement, now makes objections to the ſame; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Ewing*, to report thereon.

A petition from the reverend *Nathaniel Irwin* was read; praying for leave to bring in a bill to divorce him from *Martha* his wife.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *R. Ralſton* have leave of abſence until *Tueſday* next.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe *November* 16th reported a bill entitled " *An act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and eighteen-* " *months-men, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, " *An* " *act for the better and more certain eſtabliſhment of the court of admiralty ſeſſions* " *for the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania; which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *John M'Pherſon*, ſpecially referred by the late Aſſembly to this Houſe, *September* 28th laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled " *An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the* " *United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this* "*commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States,*" read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions for extending the Market-houſe from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, on *High-ſtreet*, in ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 22, 1784. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John Craig, Samuel Boyd and *Robert Craig*, eſqrs. elected Repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the conſtitution, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *Robert Powell*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read; praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the judges of the Supreme Court be requeſted to attend this Houſe to-morrow, at twelve o'clock at noon, to give information reſpecting the preſent ſtate of affairs at *Wyoming*.

The bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the act entitled, An Act for raiſing by "way of Lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads, leading from the city of* Philadelphia, *to the weſtern parts of this "State, and towards the improving the navigation of the river* Schuylkill," read *November* 12, was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The petition of *Lydia Eyre*, read *November* 15, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Boys*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William M'Dougall*, read *November* 20, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Murray*, read *November* 8, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A petition from *William Whitebread* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 23, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

David Jenkins, eſq. elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *William Young* was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed the officer for regiſtering and ſuperintending the chimney-ſweepers, and for collecting the fines and forfeitures under an act of Aſſembly paſſed the fifth day of *November* 1779, entitled "*An act for regulating chimney-ſweepers within "the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhip of the*

"Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," that the pay allowed him for ſaid ſervices is inadequate, and ſtating that the ſaid act doth not anſwer all the good purpoſes thereby intended; therefore praying the Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Barnabas Binney*, late a ſurgeon in the military hoſpitals was read; praying to be allowed a commutation of five years full pay in lieu of his half pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the officers of the late State navy was read; praying to be entitled to the ſame benefits and emoluments, as were granted to the officers of the *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the reverend *Nathaniel Irwin*, read *November* 20, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Erwin* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The petition of the miniſter, elders and others, of the *Preſbyterian* church in *Abington* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, read *November* 6, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *William Whitebread* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council to take order thereon.

A Member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating* "*the* Preſbyterian *congregation of* Pequea *in* Saliſbury *townſhip*, Lancaſter "*county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 19, reported a bill entitled, "A Supplement to an act entitled, "*An act for raiſing county rates* "*and levies*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act for erecting* South "Dock *ward, being part of* Dock *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new* "*ward*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 16, reported a bill entitled "A Supplement to the act entitled, "*An act for regulating, pitching,* "*paving and cleanſing the high-ways, ſtreets, lanes and alleys, and for regu-* "*lating, making and amending the water-courſes and common ſewers, within* "*the inhabited and ſettled parts of the city of* Philadelphia, *for raiſing of money* "*to defray the expences thereof, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 16, reported a bill entitled, "*An act to veſt Congreſs with certain powers for the protection of* "*commerce*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

An account from *Thomas Bradford*, for printing the Laws enacted, and the Bills publiſhed for conſideration by the late Aſſembly was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered that it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the better and more certain eſtabliſhment of the* " *court of admiralty ſeſſions for the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," read *Nov.* 20, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act to car-* " *ry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled,* " *for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt the ſaid* " *United States,*" and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time, printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to the requeſt of yeſterday, the hon. the judges of the ſupreme court attended and gave the Houſe the information deſired reſpecting the preſent ſtate of affairs at *Wyoming.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 24, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That an order be drawn on the treaſurer of the State for the ſum of *Thirty Pounds* to be paid to *Joſeph Fry,* he to be accountable.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, and that the courts of juſtice may be held at *Harris*'s ferry.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 21, on the petition of *Lydia Eyre,* made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled " A Supplement to an act entitled, " *An act for raiſing* " *county rates and levies,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time and debated in part by paragraphs.

Ordered that it be recommitted.

The bill entitled " *An act for erecting South Dock ward, being part of Dock* " *ward in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward,*" read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered that it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration

The committee appointed *November* 5, to inſpect the Minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs, made a final report, which was read, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 9, on the former report.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the petition of *Nathaniel Irwin* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled " A Supplement to the act entitled " *An act for regulat-* " *ing, pitching, paving and cleanſing the high-ways, ſtreets, lanes and alleys, and* " *for regulating, making and amending the water-courſes and common ſewers with-* " *in the inhabited and ſettled parts of the city of* Philadelphia, *for raiſing of mo-* " *ney to defray the expences thereof, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered that it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed *November* 20, on the petition of *William Scott* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from major *John David Wœlpper* was read, praying payment of his arrearages of pay, or a grant of half-pay during life.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and* " *eighteen-months-men, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" read *November* 20, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof, be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, " *An act to veſt Congreſs with certain powers for the pro-* " *tection of commerce,*" read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Boyd* and Mr. *Lilly,* be a committee to bring in a bill for the better ſecuring liberty, and preventing wrongful impriſonments.

On motion, The letter from his excellency the Preſident of Congreſs of the twenty-ſecond day of *July* 1783, with the encloſed propoſitions of the States of *New-York, New-Jerſey, Maryland* and *Virginia,* to fix their permanent reſidence in one of thoſe States, as tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council were read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Pettit,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Wayne,* to report thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 25, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

James Porter, eſq. elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

The petition of divers priſoners confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* read *November* 17, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Long,* Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Lincoln,* with inſtructions to report a bill if they deem it neceſſary.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions for extending the Market-houſe from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet,* on *High-ſtreet,* in the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John David Wœlpper* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read; praying that the Market-houſe may be extended from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet,* in the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petition of *William Scott,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on the petition of *William Scott,* beg leave to re-

port,

port, that they have examined the reſolutions of a former Aſſembly, referred to by the petitioner, and are of opinion that the officers of the militia were not entitled to more than the privates, of the gratuity allowed by the legiſlature: But as ſeveral Members of the then Aſſembly, gave a contrary opinion on the ſubject, and as the committee of Aſſembly had paſſed the accounts of the petitioner, wherein an allowance was made to the officers, according to the number of rations drawn, we are of opinion, that a ſtrong implication appears in his favour, and that therefore he is entitled to ſome indulgence from this Houſe, and as the public is indebted to him on another account in the ſum of 112*l.* 14*ſ* 9*d.* a certificate of which he hath in his poſſeſſion. We do therefore recommend the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That the comptroller-general be, and he is hereby directed, to credit the account of the ſaid *William Scott*, with the ſaid ſum of 112*l.* 14*ſ* 9*d.* being the amount of a certificate in his poſſeſſion, which he is to deliver, and that the term of nine months be allowed to the ſaid *William Scott*, to pay the balance, in order that he may recover the ſums overpaid by him to the ſeveral officers who have received the ſame.

A memorial from *Hannah Nevil*, widow of *James Nevil*, deceaſed, was read; ſetting forth, that in the year 1777, agreeably to an order of the General Aſſembly, the copper-plate printing preſs of her ſaid late huſband, was taken for public uſe, and afterwards, by a committee of that Houſe, removed to *Lancaſter*, where it ſtill remains; therefore praying this Houſe to grant her relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 23, reported a bill entitled, "*An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State in* "*the ſervice of the United States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs* "*of the fourth day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy eight*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, The proceedings of the late Council of Cenſors, relating to the conduct of the legiſlative branch of government under the preſent conſtitution, as contained in the report of the committee of the ſaid Council, who were appointed to "*enquire whether the conſtitution has been preſerved inviolate* "*in every part, and whether the legiſlative and executive branches of government* "*have performed their duty as guardians of the people, or aſſumed to themſelves, or* "*exerciſed other, or greater powers than they are entitled to by the conſtitution*," as adopted by the ſaid Council. Whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Potts*, Mr *R. Craig*, Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Ralſton*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Stevenſon*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee to extract ſuch parts of the ſaid report as adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as the ſaid committee ſhall find recommended to this Houſe, or that ſhall appear to them neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petition of *Nathaniel Irwin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 26, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Adam Orth, *William Stoey* and *Robert Clark*, eſqrs. elected Repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *James Ramſey* was read; ſetting forth, that he hath conſtructed a ſpecies of boat, of the burthen of ten tons, which ſhall ſail or be propelled by the combined influences of certain mechanical powers thereto applied, the diſtance of between twenty-five and forty miles *per* day, againſt the current of a rapid river, notwithſtanding the velocity of the water ſhould move at the rate of five miles *per* hour and upwards. Therefore praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him and his heirs and aſſigns, the ſole and excluſive right of conſtructing, navigating and employing boats conſtructed upon his new invented model, within each and every creek, river, harbour, bay and inlet, within the juriſdiction of this commonwealth, for and during the term of ten years, to be computed from the firſt day of *January* next;—reſerving nevertheleſs to the State, upon payment of a certain ſum of money to the petitioner, the right of aboliſhing the aforeſaid ſole and excluſive right.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was read, with its encloſures, relative to the payment of the intereſt due on loan-office certificates, the property of the ſubjects of His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Willis* was read; praying to be divorced from *Mary* his wife.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *Nathaniel Irwin*, poſtponed yeſterday, whereupon,

Reſolved, That the prayer of his petition be granted.

The report of the committee read *November* 24, on the petition of *Lydia Eyre*; was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given this day, a Member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, “ *An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Nathaniel Irwin *and* Martha *his wife*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe *November* 19, reported a bill entitled “ An Act to amend an act entitled “ *An act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh meadow ground therein deſcribed, ſituated in the townſhip of* Kingſeſſing *in the county of* Philadelphia, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe *November* 16, reported a bill entitled, “ *An act for preſerving the privileges of public miniſters of foreign Princes and States*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, *An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State in the ſervice of the United States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs of the fourth day of* June 1778,” read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, “ *An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *congregation* "*of* Pequea *in* Saliſbury *townſhip*, Lancaſter *county*," read *November* 23, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time, printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed *November* 24, on the letter from his Excellency the Preſident of Congreſs, relative to the permanent reſidence of Congreſs, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 27, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *James Ramſey*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, with inſtructions to confer with the petitioner, and report thereon.

A petition from *John Pearſon* was read, ſetting forth, that in 1780, he voluntarily ſold cattle to one of the commiſſioners appointed by Council for that purpoſe and received a certificate therefor, in continental money; and praying this Houſe to order payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Philip Shrawder*, late captain of a company of rangers was read, ſetting forth, that agreeably to an act of the General Aſſembly, he raiſed a company of rangers for the defence of the frontiers, that there remains due to him on the recruiting ſervice, a balance of 479*l.* 19*ſ* 5*d.* including the whole of his pay, amounting to 472*l.* 10*ſ.* 0*d.* and praying this Houſe to order payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Lower* have leave of abſence.

The petition of the officers of the late State navy, read *November* 23, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Coats* and Mr. *Wayne*, to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, read *November* 24, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Engle*, Mr *Clark*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Stoey*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *Mawhorter*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Stevenſon*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Richards*, to report thereon.

A petition of *John Huber*, late a colonel, and *Bernhard Gardiner*, late a captain of the ninth battalion of *Lancaſter* county militia was read, ſetting forth, that application hath been made by them to the Supreme Executive Council, for payment of certain ſums of money due to the officers of ſaid battalion, out of the muſtering fines yet in arrear, but without effect; therefore praying the interpoſition of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for electing commiſſioners for the purpoſe of defining and aſcertaining on the part of this State in conjunction with ſuch commiſſioners as may be appointed by the State of *New-Jerſey*, what iſlands ſituated in the river *Delaware* are within the juriſdiction of the ſaid States reſpectively, purſuant to the agreement entered into by commiſſioners duly appointed, and afterwards fully ratified and confirmed by the reſpective legiſlatures of the ſaid States.

The report of the committee read *November* 26, on the letter from his Excellency the Preſident of Congreſs, relative to the permanent reſidence of that Honorable Body, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the Honorable the Congreſs of the United States, appear to be yet unprovided with ſuch public buildings and apartments as are requiſite for their convenient accommodation, and for the accommodation of their miniſters and officers. And whereas this Houſe are warmly deſirous to contribute on all occaſions, to the convenience as well as to the intereſts of the United States.

Reſolved, That ſuch apartments in the State-Houſe, and other buildings and apartments, being the property of this commonwealth as have been heretofore uſed and occupied by Congreſs, or by their miniſters and officers, be offered to the uſe of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for and during ſuch time as they ſhall be pleaſed to make the city of *Philadelphia* the reſidence of Congreſs, or of a committee of the States.

Reſolved, That if it ſhall be the pleaſure of Congreſs to fix their permanent reſidence in any part of this commonwealth, this Houſe will, in ſuch caſe, make ſuch neceſſary proviſion by law for the convenient accommodation, and for the ſupport of the dignity of the United States, as may be conſiſtent with their honor to accept, and with the honor of this State to grant.

Reſolved, That the Speaker be deſired to tranſmit a copy of theſe reſolutions together with the cordial invitation of this Houſe to Congreſs, to fix their reſidence in ſuch part of this State, as to them ſhall be moſt pleaſing.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 16, reported a bill entitled, " *An act for directing the mode of recovering debts contracted before the* " *firſt day of* January, *in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hundred and* " *ſeventy-ſeven,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 19, reported a bill entitled, " *An act for the limitation of actions to be brought for the inheritance* " *or poſſeſſion of real property,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act to amend an act entitled,* " *An act to enable the* " *owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh meadow ground therein deſcribed,* " *ſituated in the townſhip of* Kingſeſſing, *in the county of* Philadelphia, *to keep* " *the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray* " *the expence thereof,*" read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered that it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 29, 1784. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the ſeveral petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Lancaſter,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, be referred to the committee appointed *November* 27, on the petitions for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

A petition from *William Coffing* was read, ſetting forth, that he received certificates in lieu of pay for his ſervices in the quarter-maſter-general's department, that upon application to the commiſſioner to liquidate thoſe certificates and grant him others in lieu thereof, he was informed that the inſtructions from the ſuperintendant of finance, did not authoriſe him to liquidate the pay of officers in the Staff department; therefore praying the interpoſition of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Barnabas Binney*, read *November* 23, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered that it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the protection of public miniſters of foreign princes and States*, read *November* 26, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A letter from *William Irvine*, eſq. was read, ſetting forth, that by the act entitled, " *An act to grant the right of pre-emption to an iſland, known by the name of* Montours *iſland in the* Ohio *river, in brigadier-general* William Irvine," a price is to be fixed for the ſame, by a future General Aſſembly; therefore praying this Houſe to fix the conſideration money.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 30, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Sharp Delany*, eſq. collector of the cuſtoms, was read, referring to his letter tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council to the late Houſe of Aſſembly.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Thomas Bond*, read *November* 17, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts to report thereon.

The committee on ways and means made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 22, reported a bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of ſerjeant* William M'Dougall," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled " *An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A petition from *Jacob Sommers* was read, ſetting forth, that while in the ſervice of his country as an officer of militia, he was taken priſoner by the enemy, and after ſuffering a rigorous confinement of four years, wherein he not only ſuſtained loſs in his property, but his health and conſtitution were greatly impaired, and that he finds himſelf deprived of a compenſation, to which he thinks his ſervices to, and ſufferings for his country, entitle him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act directing the mode of recovering debts contracted before the firſt day of* January, *in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven*," read *November* 27, was read the ſecond time, and in debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, that where any judgment hath already been, or hereafter ſhall be entered in any court of record within this State, againſt any citizen or inhabitant thereof, either by default or upon the confeſſion of the party, the report of referees, the verdict of a jury or otherwiſe, for any ſum of money contracted for, or due upon any bond, ſpecialty, bill, note, bill of exchange, order aſſumpſit, ſimple contract or otherwiſe, or for rents or annuities due, or payable before the ſaid firſt day of *January*, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy, ſuch court is hereby authoriſed and required to aſcertain the ſum or ſums ſo due in each reſpective caſe, and thereupon to give judgment for the whole ſum due, as well principal as intereſt, to the time of ſuch judgment being obtained, with ſtay of execution nevertheleſs, for the reſpective times herein-after limited; that is to ſay, as to one third part of the ſaid principal and intereſt, and one years intereſt thereon, and the whole coſts and charges accrued thereon for the term of one year, from and after the paſſing of this act. As to one other third part thereof, and one years intereſt upon two third parts thereof, with the increaſed coſts and charges thereon, for the term of two years, from and after the paſſing of this act. And as to the remaining one third part thereof, with one years intereſt thereon, and the further increaſed coſts and charges thereon, for the term of three years, from and after the paſſing of this act. And that ſeveral executions for the ſaid ſeveral proportions of the ſaid debt or damages may and ſhall be iſſued at the requeſt of the plaintiff, his, her or their executors, adminiſtrators or aſſigns, if the ſaid ſeveral proportions of the ſame, be not paid and diſcharged with intereſt and coſts in the manner and at the times above ſpecified; and in all ſuch judgments hereafter to be entered, the ſtay of execution ſhall be regulated in equal third parts; that is to ſay, the firſt third part thereof, for ſuch time as ſhall be equal to one third part of the time between the entering ſuch judgment, and the expiration of three years, from the paſſing of this act; the ſecond third part thereof, for ſuch time as ſhall be equal to two third parts of the time from the entering ſuch judgment, and the expiration of three years, from the paſſing of this act; and the remaining third part thereof, until the expiration of the ſaid three years, from the paſſing of this act; after which time, executions may, and ſhall at the requeſt of the plaintiff or plaintiffs, his or their executors, adminiſtrators or aſſigns, or any perſon for him or them be iſſued againſt the defendant or defendants, his, her or their executors, adminiſtrators or aſſigns, without any writ or writs of *ſciri facias*, to revive ſuch judgments.

On the queſtion. “*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid clauſe?*”

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown* and Mr. *Cluggage*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,

YEAS.

10. *John Keller*,
11. *Arthur Erwin*,
12. *Edward Jones*,
13. *Robert Ralſton*,
14. *Thomas Potts*
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,

YEAS.

19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
22. *John Harris*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Abraham Lincoln*,
25. *Henry Spyker*,
26. *David Davis*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *Frederick Antes*,
30. *Daniel Montgomery*,
31. *Samuel Dale*,
32. *William Finley*,
33. *William Todd*,
34. *John Stevenſon*,
35. *John Smiley*,
36. *Abraham Smith*,
37. *Robert Lollar*,
38. *George Smith*,
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Manuel Eyre*,
3. *Anthony Wayne*,
4. *John Craig*,
5. *Robert Craig*,
6. *Henry Miller*,
7. *John Hay*,
8. *Philip Gartner*,
9. *James Ewing*,
10. *David M'Conaughy*,
11. *Henry Tyſon*,
12. *Joſeph Lilly*,
13. *Frederick Watts*,
14. *William Brown*,
15. *Robert Whitehill*,
16. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
17. *Robert Brown*,
18. *John Ralſton*,
19. *Robert Cluggage*,
20. *Matthew Ritchie*,
21. *James Johnſton*,
22. *James M'Calmont*,
23. *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe agreed to. Whereupon, the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs.—On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Mercer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *Thomas Long*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *John Keller*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Richard Willing*,
12. *Edward Jones*,
13. *Robert Ralſton*,
14. *Thomas Potts*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
22. *John Harris*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Abraham Lincoln*,
25. *Henry Spyker*,
26. *David Davis*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *Frederick Antes*,
30. *Daniel Montgomery*,
31. *Samuel Dale*,
32. *William Finley*,
33. *William Todd*,
34. *John Stevenſon*,

YEAS.

35. *John Smiley,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *Peter Richards,*
38. *Robert Lollar,*
39. *George Smith,*
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle.*
2. *Manuel Eyre.*
3. *Anthony Wayne,*
4. *John Craig,*
5. *Robert Craig,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*
9. *James Ewing,*
10. *David M'Conaughy,*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Joſeph Lilly,*
13. *Frederick Watts,*
14. *William Brown,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
17. *Robert Brown,*
18. *John Ralſton,*
12. *Robert Cluggage,*
20. *Matthew Ritchie,*
21. *James Johnſton.*
22. *James M'Calmont.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The petition of *Henry Willis*, read *November* 26, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *Stoey* and Mr. *Jenkins*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day "*for electing commiſſioners* "*for the purpoſe of defining and aſcertaining on the part of this State, in con-* "*junction with ſuch commiſſioners as may be appointed by the State of* New-Jerſey, "*what iſlands in the river* Delaware *are within the juriſdiction of the ſaid States* "*reſpectively, purſuant to the agreement entered into by commiſſioners duly appoint-* "*ed, and afterwards fully ratified and confirmed by the reſpective legiſlatures of the* "*ſaid States,*" be poſtponed

The bill entitled, "*An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the* "*United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of* "*this commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the act entitled, An Act for raiſing by* "*way of Lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the pub-* "*lic roads, leading from the city of* Philadelphia, *to the weſtern parts of this* "*State, and towards the improving the navigation of the river* Schuylkill," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Coats* and Mr. *Ewing*, be a committee to affix the ſeal to all ſuch laws as ſhall be enacted by this Houſe.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 1, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *John Chriſtie*, read *November* 16, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

The following motion was made and ſeconded, *viz.*

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Saturday* the fourth inſtant, appoint a State treaſurer and the collectors of exciſe, for the reſpective counties of this State.

An amendment was moved and ſeconded, *viz.*

That all the foregoing motion after the words "*State treaſurer*" be ſtruck out.

After ſome debate had enſued on the ſame, it was on motion made and ſeconded,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the original motion, together with the amendment propoſed thereon, be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned to take up for the ſecond reading, the report in part of the committee on ways and means, read yeſterday.

The committee appointed *November* 25, to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as they ſhould find recommended to this Houſe, or that ſhould appear to them neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon; made report in part, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Member preſented to the chair, a motion reſpecting the arrearages of taxes due by the reſpective counties within this commonwealth, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Arthur Donaldſon* was read; praying leave to bring in a bill for granting unto him for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive right of making and uſing the machine by him invented, for cleanſing the docks within the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a Member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the* Preſbyterian *congregation in* Abington *townſhip, in* "*the county of* Montgomery," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the* "*United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this* "*commonwealth, againſt the ſaid United States*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 2, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Charles Humphreys, eſq. elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *Elijah Rippey*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line was read; praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Gerardus Wynkoop* was read; praying to be re-appointed collector of exciſe, in and for the county of *Bucks*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 19, on the letter from the comptroller-general, relative to the iſſuing of State money, agreeably to the reſolves of the General Aſſembly, of the twenty-fifth day of *June* 1781; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as they ſhould find recommended to this Houſe, or that ſhould appear to them neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *The act enacted laſt ſeſſion of the late Aſſembly, to veſt in* Iſaac Auſtin *a real* " *eſtate, claimed by* George Adam Baker, *as his freehold.*"

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *John Keller,*
12. *Arthur Erwin,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *James Mercer,*
15. *John Craig,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *Samuel Boyd,*
18. *James Porter,*
19. *William Stoey,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Craig,*
22. *Robert Clark,*
23. *David M'Conaughy,*
24. *Frederick Watts,*

YEAS.

25. *John Harris,*
26. *William Brown,*
27. *Robert Whitehill,*
28. *Nicholas Lutz.*
29. *Abraham Lincoln,*
30. *David Davis,*
31. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
32. *Peter Burkhalter,*
33. *Robert Brown,*
34. *Jonas Hartzel,*
35. *John Ralſton,*
36. *Frederick Antes,*
37. *Daniel Montgomery,*
38. *Samuel Dale,*
39. *William Finley,*
40. *William Todd,*
41. *John Stevenſon,*
42. *John Smiley,*
43. *Abraham Smith,*
44. *James M'Calmont,*
45. *Peter Richards,*
46. *George Smith,*
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Thomas Potts,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *Henry Miller,*

NAYS.

8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartuer,*
10. *James Ewing,*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Joſeph Lilly,*
13. *Robert Cluggage,*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 3, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county, of *Montgomery*

Montgomery were read, remonſtrating againſt the courts of juſtice in and for the ſaid county being held at *Norriton*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Irvine*, eſquire, read November 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the papers relative to the accounts of *James Searle*, eſquire, tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council to the late Houſe, *November* 22, 1783, be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Kuhl*, and Mr. *Willing* to report thereon.

The motion reſpecting the arrearages of taxes due by the reſpective counties within this commonwealth, read *December* 1, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as they ſhould find recommended to this Houſe, or that ſhould appear to them neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon,—and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"*The right of Council generally to nominate to offices ſhould be declared by act*
"*of legiſlature, with a ſaving of Delegates in Congreſs, Treaſurer of the State,*
"*Regiſter of Wills, and Recorder of Deeds, and thoſe belonging to the Houſe as a*
"*legiſlative body.*"

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be ſtruck out?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
7. *Henry Miller*,
8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

11. *David M'Conaughy*,
12. *Henry Tyſon*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *William Brown*,
15. *Nicholas Lutz*,
16. *Abraham Lincoln*,
17. *Henry Spyker*,
18. *Robert Cluggage*,
19. *William Todd*,
20. *Matthew Ritchie*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *James Vanſant*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
13. *James Mercer*,
14. *John Craig*,

NAYS.

15. *Adam Orth*,
16. *Samuel Boyd*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Craig*,
21. *Robert Clark*,
22. *Frederick Watts*,
23. *John Harris*,
24. *Robert Whitehill*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Robert Brown*,

NAYS.

29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *John Ralſton,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *Samuel Dale,*
34. *William Finley,*
35. *John Stevenſon,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *Abraham Smith,*
38. *James M'Calmont,*
39. *Peter Richards.*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

It was then moved and ſeconded, to inſert after the words, "*Recorder of* "*Deeds,*" the words, "*Truſtees of the Loan Office, Collectors of Cuſtoms or* "*Exciſe,*" and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon, by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Smiley,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Elias Boys,*
2. *Manuel Eyre,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Anthony Wayne,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
9. *Henry Miller,*
10. *John Hay,*
11. *Philip Gartner,*
12. *James Ewing,*
13. *David M'Conaughy,*
14. *Henry Tyſon,*
15. *Joſeph Lilly,*
16. *William Brown,*
17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Abraham Lincoln,*
19. *Henry Spyker,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *Matthew Ritchie.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *James Mercer,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *William Stoey,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Robert Clark,*
21. *Frederick Watts,*
22. *John Harris,*
23. *Robert Whitehill,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
26. *Peter Burkhalter,*
27. *Jobert Brown,*
28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *John Ralſton,*
30. *Frederick Antes,*
31. *Daniel Montgomery,*
32. *Samuel Dale,*
33. *William Finley,*
34. *John Stevenſon,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *Peter Richards,*
39. *George Smith,*
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative; whereupon,

On the queſtion, "*Will the houſe adopt the paragraph?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown,* and Mr. *Ritchie,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *John Keller,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *James Mercer,*
12. *John Craig,*
13. *Adam Orth,*
14. *Samuel Boyd,*
15. *James Porter,*
16. *William Stoey,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Craig,*
19. *Robert Clark,*
20. *Frederick Watts,*
21. *John Harris,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*
23. *David Davis,*
24. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25. *Peter Burkhalter,*
26. *Robert Brown,*
27. *Jonas Hartzel,*
28. *John Ralſton,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*
30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *Samuel Dale,*
32. *William Finley,*
33. *John Stevenſon,*
34. *John Smiley,*
35. *Abraham Smith,*
36. *James M'Calmont,*
37. *Peter Richards,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Anthony Wayne,*
6. *Edward Jones,*
7. *Robert Ralſton,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
10. *Henry Miller,*
11. *John Hay,*
12. *Philip Gartner,*
13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M'Conaughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *William Brown,*
18. *Nicholas Lutz,*
19. *Abraham Lincoln,*
20. *Henry Spyker,*
21. *Robert Cluggage,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the clauſe agreed to.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Saturday, December 4, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a committee of many of the citizens and public creditors of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth their diſtreſſed ſituation with reſpect to their *Britiſh* creditors, and praying that their juſt demands on the public may be funded or paid, to enable them to diſpoſe of in payment or otherwiſe, without loſs, their certificates in diſcharge of their juſt debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE incloſed papers and ſeveral circumſtances ſimilar to thoſe mentioned therein ſhew the propriety of appointing an officer to take care of eſtates real and perſonal, which devolve to the commonwealth in the nature of eſcheats.

We entertain ſome doubts reſpecting our authority to make ſuch an appointment without the approbation of the General Aſſembly.

JOHN DICKINSON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, Dec. 1, 1784.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Ewing* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *November* 30 laſt, on the petition of *Henry Willis,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe took up for a ſecond reading, the report, in part, of the Committee on Ways and Means, which being fully conſidered was adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means beg leave to report in part,

That they have taken pains to obtain as accurate a knowledge as preſent circumſtances will admit, of the debts which this commonwealth ought to provide for the payment of, having regard as well to the quota of this ſtate of the debts of the United States, as the debts due from and aſſumed by this ſtate in its ſeparate capacity, excluſively however of the civil liſt, and other ordinary expences of ſupporting government, and of ſuch other debts of the ſtate as are funded on particular revenues.

The debts in contemplation in this report appear to be as follows:

Certificates iſſued to the army for depreciation due on their pay, after deducting ſuch part thereof as hath been paid in ſtate money, and excluſively of thoſe funded on the produce of the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors,	£. 204,486	0	7
Further claims for depreciation not yet ſettled and certified, eſtimated at	66,095	0	0
Beſides depreciation to deranged officers, and officers of the State navy, the amount of which is uncertain, ſuppoſe,	25,000	0	0
Certificates for horſes purchaſed in 1780, and other balances for which the parties are entitled to claim payment in ſtate money,	25,863	11	1
Certificates iſſued by the Comptroller-General purſuant to the act of April 1, 1784.	21,071	6	5
Other debts liquidated in the Comptroller's Office,	3,367	4	3
Unliquidated debts of the ſtate, eſtimated at	173,050	0	0
Half pay to the officers of the hoſpital, granted by act of *October* 1, 1781, eſtimated at the commuted value of five years full pay,	8,505	0	0
Claims on forfeited eſtates, decreed by the Supreme Court, principal ſum,	20,841	8	4
	£. 548,279	10	8

Annual intereſt at ſix *per cent.* on the above debt,	£. 32,926	15	6
Annual payments to the late Proprietaries for $8\frac{2}{3}$ years, 15000*l.* ſterling, exchange at 75 for 1,	26,250	0	0
Annuities to widows and children of officers, ſay,	123	4	6
The annual intereſt of the aggregate debt of the United States, as well foreign as domeſtic, according to the eſtimate of Congreſs, accompanying their requiſition to the ſeveral ſtates to make proviſion for their reſpective quota's thereof, is ſtated at 2,415,956 dollars, of which the proportion required of Pennſylvania, according to the rule of calculation uſed in ſaid eſtimate will be 330,485$\frac{30}{90}$ dollars equal to	123,932	0	0
	£. 183,232	0	0

To make effectual proviſion for the payment of the above mentioned ſum of one hundred and eighty three thouſand two hundred and thirty two pounds annually, for ſo long time as the ſame ſhall continue to be neceſſary, your committee deem it expedient that the revenues ariſing from the impoſt on goods imported, be appropriated to this purpoſe, the annual produce of which

may probably be one year with another,	£. 83,232	0	0
And that a tax be raiſed from the eſtates and perſons within this commonwealth, to continue ſo long as ſhall be neceſſary for the purpoſe aforeſaid, to provide annually,	100,000	0	0
	£ 183,232	0	0

And in order to enable the good people of this ſtate to pay the ſaid tax as well as the arrearages of taxes now due, with the greater eaſe and facility, your committee recommend, that bills of credit to the amount of the aforeſaid ſum of 183,232*l.* be prepared and iſſued in payment of the intereſt of the public debts; and that the ſaid bills of credit be hereafter redeemed and ſunk out of the ſurplus of the funds herein after mentioned, aided by the intereſt money which ſhall ariſe on ſuch of the certificates of the aforeſaid debts, as are or ſhall be hereafter paid into the public treaſury, for the purchaſe of lands or by other means.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolutions to the conſideration of the Houſe:

1ſt, Reſolved, That bills of credit to the amount of 183,232*l.* be made and properly prepared for emiſſion; and that the ſame when iſſued be received and receivable as equal to gold and ſilver money made current by law, for the ſum or value mentioned in ſuch bills reſpectively, in the payment of all taxes, impoſts, duties, debts and dues whatſoever, to this commonwealth.

2d, Reſolved, That there be paid yearly and every year out of the treaſury into the hands of the Continental Loan Officer in this ſtate, the ſum of 123,932*l*, being the eſtimated quota of *Pennſylvania*, of the annual intereſt of the aggregate debt of the United States, or ſuch other ſum as ſhall from time to time appear to be the true proportion of this State of the annual intereſt during the continuance of the ſaid debt, ſubject nevertheleſs to the payment of the intereſt due, and to become due on ſuch certificates of debts due from the United States, as have been or ſhall be iſſued to the citizens of this ſtate.

3d, Reſolved, That a ſum equal in value to fifteen thouſand pounds ſterling be appropriated yearly and every year, to be paid to the late Proprietaries of *Pennſylvania*, according to the directions of the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty ſeventh day of November 1779, until the ſum of 130,000*l.* ſterling mentioned in the ſaid act ſhall have been paid.

4th, *Reſolved*, That a ſum not exceeding thirty three thouſand and fifty pounds, yearly and every year, be appropriated to the payment of the annual intereſt of debts now due from this ſtate, until the principal of the ſaid debts ſhall be diſcharged.

5th, *Reſolved*, That the monies which have ariſen and become due ſince the firſt day of November laſt, and which hereafter ſhall ariſe and become due for impoſts and duties on goods, wares, and merchandize imported into this ſtate, be appropriated for and towards a fund for furniſhing the ſeveral ſums and payments mentioned in the foregoing reſolutions, until the continental impoſt of five *per centum*, ſhall take place, or the United States ſhall make other effectual proviſion for the payment of the annual intereſt of the continental debt.

6th, *Reſolved*, That in addition to the aforeſaid fund, there be raiſed and collected by way of tax on the eſtates real and perſonal and perſons within this ſtate, the annual ſum of one hundred thouſand pounds; the ſaid tax to continue for ſo long time as ſhall be neceſſary for the purpoſes before mentioned, and until the bills of credit aforeſaid ſhall be redeemed and cancelled by and out of the ſurplus of the fund aforeſaid, after payment of the aforeſaid ſums and appropriations charged upon it, and no longer.

7th, Provided always, and it is hereby further *Reſolved*, That the intereſt which hath ariſen or ſhall ariſe on ſuch of the certificates of the aforeſaid debts as are orſhall be paid into the public treaſury, for the purchaſe of lands, or by other means, ſhall be added to and conſidered as part of the fund aforeſaid. Whereupon,

Ordered, That the committee on ways and means bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The motion read *December* 1, reſpecting the arrearages of taxes due by the reſpective counties within this commonwealth; was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears to this Houſe, that the legiſlature of this ſtate have paſſed ſundry acts from the *20th March* 1778, to the *21ſt March* 1783, incluſive, for the purpoſe of raiſing, 20,996,995*l*, 2*ſ*, 7*d*, continental money, 367,281*l*, 0*ſ*, 0*d*, ſtate money, and 745,297*l*, 15*ſ*, 0*d*, ſpecie; and that the following apportionments thereof, have been quotaed upon the reſpective counties, *viz.*

	Continental Money.			*State Money.*			*Specie.*		
Philadelphia City and County.	£.6,955,829	10	0	£.121,681	15	0	£.246,918	6	10
Bucks County,	1,375,796	16	3	24,066	12	7	48,834	5	7
Cheſter County,	2,208,496	19	9	38,633	15	7½	78,397	14	7½
Lancaſter County,	2,988,952	1	8	52,286	4	2½	106,102	14	2½
York County,	1,665,244	12	0	29,132	13	0	59,113	3	0
Cumberland County,	1,565,190	11	3	27,380	3	0	55,561	13	0
Berks County,	1,503,293	15	3	26,297	10	9¼	53,364	14	9¼
Northampt. County,	865,398	10	9	15,138	6	10	30,719	18	10
Bedford County,	478,431	11	0	8,298	19	8½	16,841	1	8½
Northumber. County,	808,297	12	2	12,220	15	7	20,803	9	7
Weſtmoreland County,	586,063	2	6	12,144	2	10	16,239	11	10
Waſhington County,							12397	1	0

It alſo appears to this Houſe, that the following payments have been made by the reſpective counties on account of the foregoing quotas to the *1ſt Auguſt*, 1784, *viz.*

	Continental Money.			*State Money.*			*Specie.*		
City and County of Philadelphis,	£.6,955,829	10	0	£.114,116	15	2	£.138,128	18	7½
Bucks County,	1,289,137	19	5	19,899	2	6	27,503	8	11½
Cheſter County,	2,046,502	9	7	25,898	15	4	39,407	7	7
Lancaſter County,	3,050,539	11	8	25,385	7	4	25,711	1	3½
York County,	1,208,055	5	2	9,687	15	0	12,040	4	6½
Cumberland County,	1,205,613	19	3	3,595	17	9	2,686	9	5
Berks County,	1,287,153	16	6	19,569	14	0	12,492	6	11½
Northampton County,	807,214	8	9	10,765	19	8	9,935	11	11½
Bedford County,	39,897	2	1	916	16	3	719	6	2
Northumberland County,	6,741	2	6	763	12	1	408	18	7½
Weſtmoreland County,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waſhington County,	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	0	0

And that the following balances upon the foregoing taxes were due by the ſeveral counties, as therein ſpecified reſpectively upon the 1*ſt* day of *Auguſt* laſt, *viz.*

	Continental Money.			*State Money.*			*Specie.*		
City and County of Philadelphia,	£. 0	0	0	£.7,565	0	8	£.108,789	8	2½
Bucks County,	86,658	16	10	4,167	10	1	21,334	16	7½
Cheſter County,	161,994	10	2	12,735	0	3½	38,990	7	0½
Lancaſter County,	0	0	0	26,900	16	10½	80,391	12	11
York County,	457,189	6	10	19,444	18	0	47,072	18	5½
Cumberland County,	359,576	12	0	23,784	5	3	52,875	3	7
Berks County,	216,139	18	9	6,727	16	9½	40,872	7	10
Northampton County,	58,184	2	0	4,372	7	2	20,784	6	10½
Bedford County,	434,534	8	11	7,382	3	5½	16,121	15	6½
Northumberl. County,	801,566	9	8	11,457	3	6	20,394	10	11½
WeſtmorelandCounty,	586,063	2	6	12,144	2	10	16,239	11	10
Waſhington County,	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,372	1	0
	£.3,161,897	7	8	£.136,681	4	11	£.476,239	0	10½

Therefore, *Reſolved*, That the different counties in this commonwealth have hitherto contributed towards the public expences in very unequal proportions, contrary to the juſt and equitable principles laid down in the 8th ſection of the Declaration of Rights, " That every member of ſociety hath " a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and " therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the expence of " that protection, and yield his perſonal ſervices when neceſſary, or an equi-" valent thereto."

And whereas the bleſſings of a general peace and a free commerce, puts it in the power of every county to make good former deficiences, which in the aggregate amounts to 3161897*l*, 7*ſ*, 8*d*, continental money, 136681*l*, 4*ſ*, 11*d*, ſtate money, and 476239*l*, 0*ſ*, 10½*d*, ſpecie; this, aided by the ſale of the unappropriated ceſſion of country, lately obtained from the ſix nations of Indians, together with the impoſt, exciſe, and other revenue laws now in operation, will be amply ſufficient for the preſent exigencies of government; and whereas it would be unjuſt and oppreſſive to impoſe new taxes upon the good people of this commonwealth, who have fully diſcharged their proportion of the taxes already impoſed, unleſs the other part of the community are alſo compelled to contribute a due proportion; therefore,

Reſolved, That the Executive Council be directed, and they are hereby directed and enjoined to cauſe the proper officers in the reſpective counties of this ſtate, forthwith to collect the arrearages of taxes due by the individuals in their ſeveral and reſpective counties and diſtricts, and to pay the ſame into the hands of the ſtate treaſurer, on or before the day of next.

Reſolved, That if the Executive Council ſhould be of opinion, that the laws now in force are inſufficient to compel the payment of the taxes now due, this houſe will ſtrengthen the hands of Council by a law adequate to the purpoſe.

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Jones*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Elias Boys*,
7. *James Vanſant*,
8. *Manuel Eyre*,
9. *William Coats*,
10. *Thomas Long*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *John Keller*,
13. *James Mercer*,
14. *John Craig*,
15. *Adam Orth*,
16. *Samuel Boyd*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Craig*,
21. *Robert Clark*,
22. *Frederick Watts*,
23. *John Harris*,
24. *William Brown*,

YEAS.

25. *Robert Whitehill*,
26. *Nicholas Lutz*,
27. *Abraham Lincoln*,
28. *Henry Spyker*,
29. *David Davis*,
30. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
31. *Peter Burkhalter*,
32. *Robert Brown*,
33. *Jonas Hartzel*,
34. *John Ralſton*,
35. *Frederick Antes*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,
37. *Samuel Dale*,
38. *William Finley*,
39. *William Todd*,
40. *Matthew Ritchie*,
41. *John Smiley*,
42. *James Johnſton*,
43. *Abraham Smith*,
44. *James M'Calmont*,
45. *Robert Lollar*,
46. *George Smith*,
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Anthony Wayne*,
2. *Edward Jones*,
3. *Robert Ralſton*,
4. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
5. *Perſifor Frazer*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Henry Miller*,

NAYS.

8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *David M'Conaughy*,
11. *Henry Tyſon*,
12. *Joſeph Lilly*,
13. *Robert Cluggage*,
14. *Peter Richards*,

So it was carried in the affirmative; whereupon,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *J. Thomas*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *J.*

Ralſton, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *A. Smith*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING received authentic intelligence, that a purchaſe has lately been made by our commiſſioners from the Six Nations, of all the lands not before bought from them, within the limits of this ſtate, and having reaſon to believe, that the purchaſe will ſoon be completed by a conveyance from the Weſtern Indians of their right, our attention has been turned towards the execution of two laws depending upon ſuch an equitable eſtabliſhment of our boundaries. We mean an act entitled "*An Act for the ſale of certain* "*Lands therein mentioned,*" &c. paſſed the 12th day of March, 1783, and the act entitled, "*An Act for opening the Land Office,*" &c. paſſed the firſt day of April, 1784.

The principles of theſe laws we generally and highly approve; but, as we think ſome alterations proper for producing all the beneficial effects intended by the legiſlature, we earneſtly wiſh your reviſion and amendment of them.

In conſidering theſe laws, objects of immenſe importance to the good people of Pennſylvania and their poſterity, are brought into view.

It appears by a ſtate of the public debts which we have received from the comptroller general, and now incloſed, that there are upwards of two millions and an half of dollars due *by the commonwealth*, and more than five millions and an half due to the citizens and inhabitants of this ſtate *by the United States.* By a judicious diſpoſition of the lands directed to be ſold for certificates, &c. by the laws before mentioned, and to be paid down, very large portions of theſe incumbrances might be diſcharged, and the people of this commonwealth be enabled to bear, without diſtreſs, the taxes that might then be neceſſarily required from them.

On the other hand, we think it our duty to obſerve, that by the beſt information we can obtain, and upon the fulleſt deliberation, we are all perfectly convinced, that if a fund is firſt eſtabliſhed by this ſtate, for paying the intereſt of the ſaid debts, or of either ſpecies of them, in general, the ſale of the lands from which ſuch great advantages have been expected, will afford but an inconſiderable relief to our conſtituents, from their burthens.

On the former plan, the conſideration for the lands would be immediately received by the commonwealth, and the demands to that amount be at once extinguiſhed. On the latter, or funding ſyſtem, the lands would only ſell for low prices, and if credit ſhould then be given to the purchaſers, their payments of principal or intereſt could never be relied upon, as a ſupply. They would be ſlow, irregular, and perhaps not to be obtained but by compulſion. Multitudes of perſons in diſtant parts of the ſtate would be involved in the ſame circumſtances; the cauſe would be common; might therefore excite combinations, and diſturb the public peace.

Other miſchiefs, and as great as the foregoing, will, in our opinion, attend the adoption of the funding ſyſtem at preſent. A heavy load of taxation muſt inſtantly fall upon the freeholders and other inhabitants of this republic. It would be ſome conſolation, if it was likely, that they could ſee the end of it: But, we judge, it will paſs to their deſcendents for ages as an inheritance, that in many inſtances, will eat out the eſtates which they can leave to them.

As to the conſequences of dealing in funds, they are well known. They are ſuch, that it is certain, every wiſe ſtate ought to make vigorous exertions for reducing them into as ſmall a compaſs as is poſſible.

The generous and benevolent temper of Pennſylvanians might be more eaſily reconciled to theſe evils, if they could be perſuaded, that ſuch extraordinary efforts muſt be made, for relieving widows, orphans, and worthy citizens, whoſe ſituation in life was rendered uncomfortable by the application of their property to the uſe of their country, or for aſſiſting the original holders of other certificates, or their legal repreſentatives. But efforts of this extent are not requiſite for the attainment of theſe ends. The legiſlature has heretofore adverted to ſuch reſpectable claims. We refer to the act entitled, "*An Act for providing the quota of Fœderal Supplies,*" *&c.* paſſed the 21ſt of March, 1783, and a ſupplement to it paſſed the 25th of September, in that year, and to an act entitled, "*An Act to appropriate certain Monies* "*ariſing from the Exciſe,*" paſſed the ſame day of *March*, and a ſupplement to it paſſed the 20th day of *September*, in the ſame year.

It is an indiſputable truth, that a very large number of certificates has been bought for a trifling part of the ſums mentioned in them, from thoſe to whom they were iſſued. If theſe purchaſers are to receive ſix per cent. intereſt on the nominal ſums contained in their certificates, they will frequently, and, we believe, generally receive from 40 to 50 per cent. intereſt annually, on the ſpecie which they actually paid for them, beſides the riſe in the value of the principals; and perſons who were obliged to take the certificates from the public inſtead of gold and ſilver, and afterwards to ſell them becauſe the public did not pay them, muſt bear their proportion of taxes for converting them into gold and ſilver in the hands of ſuch purchaſers.

If the hardſhip of theſe caſes is to be aggravated to the firſt owners, it will be by reflecting, that the buyers of the certificates in all probability were led by general converſation upon the ſubject, and by the tenor of our laws, to contemplate the laying them out in purchaſing lands from the ſtate, without any expectation of receiving an annual intereſt of ſix per cent. in ſpecie, for the ſums ſpecified in them. Thus while ſome will be ſuddenly elevated to great wealth, others will be proportionably depreſſed, the rewards of induſtry being transferred by this fluctuation, from the latter to the former.

There is another circumſtance connected with this ſubject and deſerving notice. It is eaſy to foreſee how the certificates will riſe in value, when they are funded. Very many freeholders in different parts of the ſtate, and particularly at a diſtance from this city, who mean only to form moderate ſettlements for themſelves and their children, have not yet taken out patents for their lands, tho' payments may be made in certificates. The preſumption is, that they have none. The poſſeſſors of certificates will have all theſe, and unqueſtionably many widows and orphans, at their mercy; and may tax them at diſcretion. A dealer in lands and certificates may have got a townſhip cheaper, than in ſuch caſe one of theſe perſons can get a ſmall plantation.

When we purſue our enquiries reſpecting a general funding plan by this ſtate, in its relation to the confederation, our concern increaſes.

Congreſs has been faithfully labouring ſince the concluſion of the war, to give order, efficacy, and permanency, to the arrangements of peace. Prudence and the true intereſt of *America* muſt produce a juſt regard for the counſels of that body. Without this regard, all the wiſdom and virtue of theſe ſtates will fail to make us a happy people.

We conſider the plan we have ſpoke of, as interfering with fœderal meaſures, and tending to weaken the union. A treaty has been held with the Indians, and a large territory is ceded by them. The commiſſioners have proceeded to another. The lands acquired will be diſpoſed of, and other ſteps will be taken, to ſupport the national faith and honor. Let us hope, that they will be ſupported; at leaſt, let us not declare to the world, that they are deſperate.

We cannot forbear to mention our apprehenſions, that ſuch a plan will exceed the ability of this commonwealth, and injure its credit; and that we ſhall be likely to involve ourſelves in greater difficulties, than our proportion of the common debt will occaſion. The duties upon importations have been encouraging; but your honorable houſe will truly weigh the variety of events, that are combined with that delicate ſubject.

If Pennſylvania ſhall take up the load we think too heavy for her, and be able to bear it in time of profound tranquility, we ſhould endeavour to anticipate her ſituation, if that tranquility ſhall be interrupted.

We will only add upon this point, that by the act beforementioned, "*for* "*providing the Quota of Fœderal Supplies,*" *&c.* a tax of ſix hundred thouſand dollars was laid, one half payable in the treaſurer's notes, to be iſſued to citizens of this ſtate, who were public creditors. Of this half, about one hundred and ſixty thouſand dollars only, were accordingly iſſued; and of theſe which ought to have been all redeemed on the firſt day of laſt *July*, there yet remains a balance of about ſeventy thouſand dollars unredeemed.

Called upon by the Conſtitution, by the Confederation, and by our affection for the commonwealth, to offer what information we can upon affairs of ſo much moment, we ardently wiſh, your honourable houſe may join with us in opinion, that it is proper, firſt, to relieve the citizens whoſe circumſtances demand the moſt immediate attention; next, to diſpoſe of the lands belonging to the ſtate to the beſt advantage; allow time for the United States to carry into effect their meaſures for the benefit of the union; and then, to provide for paying principal or intereſt to the public creditors who remain unſatisfied, in ſuch manner as ſhall by the legiſlature be judged equitable and adviſeable.

JOHN DICKINSON.

PHILADELPHIA, *Council-Chamber,*
Dec. 4, 1784.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, December 6, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *William M'Mullen*, was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of lumber exported from the port of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Arthur Donaldſon*, read *December* 1, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Eyre*, and Mr. *Coats* to report thereon.

The petitions for and againſt extending the Market Houſe in *High-Street*, from *Third-Street* to *Fourth-Street*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Keller*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Orth*, Mr. *Gartner*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *R. Brown*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, read *December* 4, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Finley*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, be a committee to reviſe the acts for opening the Land-Office, and report thereon.

The committee to whom was referred, *December* 4, the motion reſpecting the arrearages of taxes due by the reſpective counties within this commonwealth; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " An Act to amend an act entitled, " *An Act to enable* " *the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh meadow ground therein* " *deſcribed, ſituated in the townſhip of* Kingſeſſing, *in the county of* Philadel-" phia, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices, and flood-gates in repair; and to raiſe* " *a fund to defray the expence thereof*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, " *An Act to veſt Congreſs with certain powers for the* " *protection of commerce*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 7, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Caſper Geyer*, late a ſub-lieutenant of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that by reaſon of his long captivity, his eſtate hath been ſo reduced as to prevent his continuing the buſineſs he formerly carried on, and praying this Houſe to grant him ſome relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Whitemarſh*, in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act entitled, " *An act for erecting part of the county of* Philadelphia *into a ſeparate county*," ſo far as the ſame annexes them to the county of *Montgomery*, and praying an act may be paſſed to repeal ſo much of the aforeſaid law."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kutz*, was read, with the ſeveral papers incloſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, be a committee to examine the State Houſe, and report an eſtimate of the repairs neceſſary to be done.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the petition of *Arthur Donaldſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom the ſeveral petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Lancaſter*, were referred, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, " *An act for incorporat-* " *ing the Preſbyterian church of* Falling Spring, *in* Guilford *townſhip, in* " Franklin *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act for erecting and opening a Loan-Office, and for emitting the ſum of* "*thouſand pounds in bills of credit on loan within this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be recommitted with the addition of Mr. *Pettit*, and Mr. *Whitehill*.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act for the better regulation of juries,*" which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Stevenſon*, Mr. *Smiley*, and Mr. *Johnſton*, be a committee to bring in an additional clauſe to the bill entitled, "*An act for the better regulation of juries,*" requiring all auditors hereafter to be appointed by the reſpective courts to take an oath or affirmation for the faithful diſcharge of their appointment.

A petition from *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to revive the act paſſed by an aſſembly of the late province of *Pennſylvania*, granting unto them the excluſive right of keeping a ferry over *Neſhaminy* creek in the county of *Bucks*, under ſuch reſtrictions as this Houſe may deem neceſſary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill entitled, "*An* "*act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in the ſeveral gaols of this* "*commonwealth,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 8, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Preſident having reported in Council, a converſation between General *Waſhington* and himſelf reſpecting Mr. *Thomas Paine*, we have thereby been induced to take the ſervices and ſituation of that gentleman at this time into our particular conſideration.

Arriving in *America* juſt before the war broke out, he commenced his reſidence here, and became a citizen of this commonwealth, by taking the oath of allegiance at a very early period.

So important and diſintereſted were his ſervices during the late conteſt, that thoſe perſons whoſe own merits in the courſe of it have been the moſt diſtinguiſhed, concur with a highly honourable unanimity in entertaining ſentiments of eſteem for him, and intereſting themſelves in his deſerts.

It is unneceſſary for us to enlarge on this ſubject. If the General Aſſembly ſhall be pleaſed to appoint a committee, they will receive information, that we doubt not, will in every reſpect prove ſatisfactory.

We confide, that you, gentlemen, will then feel, that the attention of *Pennſylvania* is drawn to Mr. *Paine*, by motives equally grateful to the human heart, and reputable to the republic; and that you will join with us in opinion, that a ſuitable acknowledgment of his eminent ſervices, and a proper proviſion towards a continuance of them in an independent manner, ſhould be made on the part of this ſtate.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, PHILADELPHIA,
Dec. 6, 1784.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Cheltenham* and *Springfield*, in the county of *Montgomery*, were read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the counties of *Bedford* and *Weſtmoreland*, was read, praying a new road may be laid out from the town of *Bedford* to *Pittſburg*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Tucker*, was read, praying, that the ſum of one hundred and fifty pounds wherewith he ſtands charged by a reſolve of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, of the firſt day of *April* laſt, and of which he was robbed, may be carried to the credit of his account.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Hannah Nevil*, read *November 25th* laſt, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Coats* to report thereon.

The Committee appointed *November 19th* laſt, on the letter from the Comptroller General, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a motion reſpecting the appointment of commiſſioners on the part of this State, to meet with ſuch commiſſioners as are or ſhall be appointed on the part of *New-Jerſey*, to ſettle, agree upon, and accurately to deſcribe which of the iſlands, iſlets, and inſulated dry lands, within the river *Delaware*, belong to each of the ſaid States reſpectively; which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined* "*in the ſeveral goals of this commonwealth*," read yeſterday; was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* "Abington *townſhip in the county of* Montgomery," read *December* 1, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Committee appointed *December 6th*, on the petitions for and againſt extending the Market Houſe in *High-Street*, from *Third-Street* to *Fourth-Street*, in the city of *Philadelphia*; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the better regulation of juries*," read *December 7th*, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The report of the committee, read *December* 4, on the petition of *Henry Willis*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Arthur Donaldſon*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of his petition.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 9, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from His Excellency the Preſident of the ſtate was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *December* 8, 1784.

SIR,

WE think it proper to inform your honorable houſe, that orders have been lately given for the march of the troops at *Wyoming* to their reſpective homes, which, we have reaſon to believe, took place on the 20th day of laſt month.

I am with great reſpect,
Sir, your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The honorable the SPEAKER.

The letter from *Matthias Rhoads*, Eſquire, declining to take his ſeat as a member of this Houſe, read *November* 11, was read the ſecond time

Ordered, That a writ do iſſue to the Sheriff of the county of Berks, commanding him to hold an election for a repreſentative, in the room of the ſaid *Matthias Rhoads*, Eſquire, in the manner preſcribed by law.

A repreſentation and petition from a number of the inhabitants weſtward of the *Alleghany* mountain was read, praying that they may be indulged in paying the balances due on their lands in the ſame manner as applicants are allowed under the act entitled, "*An Act for opening the Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated Lands within this State.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants reſiding on the waters of the *Frankſtown* branch of *Juniata* was read, praying an act may be paſſed appointing certain commiſſioners for removing all the obſtructions to the navigation and fiſheries in the *Frankſtown* and *Bedford* branches of *Juniata*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John M'Pherſon*, read *November* 20, laſt, was read the ſecond time. On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The petition of *Elizabeth Kutz*, with the ſeveral papers encloſed, read *December* 7, was read the ſecond time

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the County of *Northampton*, to report thereon at the next ſeſſion of the preſent Houſe.

The report of the committee on the letter from the Comptroller General, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill allowing an appeal to the party for a trial by jury when diſſatisfied with the ſettlement of their accounts by the Comptroller General.

Ordered, That the committee appointed 19*th November* laſt on the letter from the Comptroller General be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the reſolution of the 25th day of *June*, 1781, reſpecting the iſſuing of ſtate money, read *December* 2, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be recommitted with the addition of Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Johnſton*.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions for and againſt extending the Market-Houſe in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet* in the City of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time, and on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*" *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to extend the Market Houſe from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Todd*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *Thomas Long,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *John Keller,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Richard Willing,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *William Stoey,*
13. *David Jenkins,*
14. *Robert Craig,*

YEAS.

15. *Frederick Watts,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*
17. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
18. *Peter Burkhalter,*
19. *Robert Brown,*
20. *Jonas Hartzel,*
21. *Robert Cluggage,*
22. *Frederick Antes,*
23. *Daniel Montgomery,*
24. *William Todd,*
25. *James Johnſton.*
26. *James M'Calmont.*
27. *George Smith,*
28. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *James Vanſant,*
3. *John Clark,*
4. *Anthony Wayne,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
8. *Percifor Frazer,*
9. *Charles Humphreys,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *James Porter,*
13. *Robert Clark,*
14. *Henry Miller,*
15. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

16. *Philip Gartner,*
17. *David M'Conaughy,*
18. *Henry Tyſon,*
19. *Joſeph Lilly,*
20. *John Harris,*
21. *William Brown,*
22. *Abraham Lincoln,*
23. *Henry Spyker,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *Matthew Ritchie,*
28. *John Smiley,*
29. *Abraham Smith,*

So it was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, " *An Act* " *for the better ſecuring perſonal Liberty and preventing wrongful Impriſon-* " *ments*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled,

“ *An Act to grant to* Arthur Donaldſon, *his Executors, Adminiſtrators, and* “ *Aſſigns the excluſive Right of making and uſing in the River* Delaware *a Ma-* “ *chine called* Hippopotamus *by him invented for the cleanſing of Docks and raiſing* “ *Sand, Gravel, Dirt, and other Things from the Bed of the River,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An Act to amend* “ *an Act entitled,* ‘ An Act to enable the Owners and Poſſeſſors of a certain ‘ Tract of marſh meadow Ground therein deſcribed, ſituated in the Town- ‘ ſhip of *Kingſeſſing*, in the County of *Philadelphia* to keep the Banks, Dams, ‘ Sluices and Floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a Fund to defray the expence ‘ thereof,” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a Law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *December* 10, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *William Montgomery*, Eſquire, elected a Delegate to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, praying leave to reſign the ſaid appointment,

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Edward Shippen*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth that the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council, in the month of *April* laſt, appointed him to preſide in the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of *Philadelphia*; and praying this Houſe to annex ſuch reaſonable emoluments to the execution of the ſaid office as ſhall appear juſt and equitable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9, laſt, to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as they ſhall deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon, made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was recommitted, yeſterday, the report of the committee on the reſolution of the twenty-fifth day of *June*, 1781, reſpecting the iſſuing of ſtate money; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report in part of the committee appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors as they ſhall deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon, poſtponed *December* 2, and after ſome time ſpent thereon

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A petition from *John Cowell*, and *Michael Dietrick*, late officers in the Military Hoſpital, was read, praying to be allowed the commutation of five years full pay in lieu of half pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion, read *December* 8, reſpecting the appointment of Commiſſioners on the part of this State, to meet with ſuch commiſſioners as are or ſhall be appointed on the part of *New-Jerſey*, to ſettle, agree upon, and accurately to deſcribe which of the Iſlands, Iſlets and Inſulated drylands within the river *Delaware*, belong to each of the ſaid States reſpectively; was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas Commiſſioners duly appointed on the part of the State of *New-Jerſey*, and Commiſſioners duly appointed on the part of the State of *Pennſylvania*,

ſylvania, for the purpoſe of ſettling the juriſdiction of the river *Delaware*, and Iſlands within the ſame, did make and execute two inſtruments of an agreement for the purpoſes aforeſaid, one for each State, bearing date the 26th day of *April*, 1783; which agreement hath ſince been ratified and confirmed by acts of the Legiſlatures of the ſaid States reſpectively.

And Whereas, in the ſaid agreement, it is among other things ſet forth and declared "That all Iſlands, Iſlets and dry lands within the bed and between the ſhores of the ſaid river, and between the ſtation point or north weſt corner of *New-Jerſey*, northerly, and the falls of *Trenton*, ſoutherly, ſhall, as to juriſdiction, be hereafter conſidered as parts and parcels of the State to which ſuch inſulated drylands did lie neareſt at the time of making and executing the ſaid agreement."

And whereas it is requiſite that the ſaid iſlands, iſlets, and drylands lying within the boundaries aforeſaid ſhould be more particularly deſcribed and ſuch as belong to each of the ſaid ſtates reſpectively more clearly aſcertained, therefore,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council of this State be authoriſed and empowered, and they are hereby authoriſed, empowered and deſired to appoint three or more Commiſſoners on the part of this State, to meet with ſuch Commiſſioners as are or ſhall be appointed on the part of *New-Jerſey*, to ſettle, agree upon and accurately to deſcribe which of the ſaid Iſlands, Iſlets and inſulated drylands belong and appertain to each of the ſaid States reſpectively, according to the purport, true intent and meaning of the aforeſaid agreement.

Reſolved, That the Commiſſioners on the part of this State, be inſtructed ſo to form their report of the deſcription and ſituation of ſuch of the ſaid Iſlands and inſulated drylands as ſhall be found to belong to this State, as that they may be properly annexed to the reſpective counties and townſhips to which they lie moſt contiguous.

Reſolved, That each of the ſaid Commiſſioners be allowed twenty ſhillings per diem, for every day they ſhall reſpectively be employed as aforeſaid, and that this Houſe will make proviſion for the ſame, and for defraying the neceſſary contingent expences of the ſaid ſervices.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment. Whereupon,

In order to attend the funeral of *John Stevenſon*, Eſquire, late a member of this Houſe for the county of *Waſhington*,

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 11, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from *Timothy Matlack*, was read, having reference to a ſuit at law, now depending between this commonwealth and the ſaid *Matlack*, by order of a former Houſe of Aſſembly, dated the 22d day of *March*, 1783, and praying this Houſe to order the opinion of the Judges to be taken on the points ſtated by the Comptroller General, as being points of law only in which no fact whatever is mixed; and on motion and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time, *Ordered,* That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl,* Mr. *Eyre,* Mr. *J. Clark,* and Mr. *Frazer,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Thomas Bond,* late Purveyor to the General Hoſpital, in behalf of himſelf, *Robert Johnſon,* and *Goodwin Wilſon,* late Surgeons of the ſaid Hoſpital, was read, praying to be allowed a commutation of five years full pay, in lieu of half pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* were read, remonſtrating againſt that part of the act of Aſſembly which directs the place for holding the courts of juſtice to be in the neighbourhood of *Stony Creek,* contiguous to the river *Schuylkill*; and praying this Houſe to paſs a law directing the place for holding the courts of juſtice to be in a more central part of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the Judges and Inſpectors choſen by ſundry townſhips in the county of *Montgomery,* at a meeting of the delegates of the different townſhips, purſuant to an advertiſement, for the purpoſe of laying before this Houſe, the general ſenſe of the inhabitants of the ſaid county, reſpecting the moſt ſuitable place for holding the courts of juſtice within the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Sharp Delany,* Eſquire, read *November* 30th, laſt, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Pettit,* Mr. *Moore,* and Mr. *Whitehill,* be a committee to enquire from what cauſe ſo large a ſum of public money due upon the impoſt laws appears to be outſtanding, and report thereon to this Houſe.

The further report in part of the committee appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report adopted by the Council of Cenſors as they ſhould deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon; read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl,* Mr. *Eyre,* Mr. *J. Clark,* and Mr. *Frazer,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 27, laſt, on the petition of the officers of the late State Navy, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *December* 7, on the petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Lancaſter,* was read the ſecond time; Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the county of *Lancaſter* be divided into two counties, agreeably to the following lines, *viz.*

That the line of diviſion ſhall begin on the weſt of the river *Suſquehanna,* about one mile below the mouth of *Conawago* creek, being on the eaſt bank of the ſaid river, and from thence a weſt courſe betwixt the townſhips of *Donegal, Mount-joy, Rapho, Warwick,* and *Eliſabeth,* on the ſouth ſide of the *Conawago Hills,* or ridge of mountains, and *Lower-Paxton, Dery, Londondery, Lebanon,* and *Heidleberg,* on the north ſide of the ſame hills, or ridge, ſo that the ſaid line of the new county ſhall extend through between the townſhips beforeſaid, along the line of the ſame, to the eaſtermoſt end of the ſouth line of ſaid townſhip of *Heidleberg,* to the line of *Berks* county, thence along the line of *Berks* county to *Mahatango* creek, thence along the line of *Northumberland* county to the line of *Cumberland* county, thence down the ſaid *Suſquehanna* on the line of *Cumberland* and *York* county to the point which ſhall be found due weſt from the place of beginning.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the ſaid report be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, on the petition of *Henry Willis*, poſtponed *December* 8, and having fully debated the ſame.

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*" viz.

Reſolved, "*That the prayer of the petitioner be granted.*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Smiley*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *William Coats*,
5. *Arthur Irvine*,
6. *Richard Willing*,
7. *Anthony Wayne*,
8. *Edward Jones*,
9. *Robert Ralſton*,
10. *James Mercer*,
11. *Adam Orth*,
12. *Samuel Boyd*,
13. *William Stoey*,
14. *David Jenkins*,

YEAS.

15. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
16. *Henry Miller*,
17. *John Hay*,
18. *Philip Gartner*,
19. *David M'Conaughy*,
20. *Henry Tyſon*,
21. *Joſeph Lilly*,
22. *William Brown*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Henry Spyker*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Robert Brown*,
27. *Jonas Hartzel*,
28. *Robert Cluggage*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *Elias Boys*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *Thomas Long*,
7. *Joſeph Thomas*,
8. *John Keller*,
9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *Charles Humphreys*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *Robert Craig*,
15. *Robert Clark*,
16. *Frederick Watts*,

NAYS.

17. *John Harris*,
18. *Robert Whitehill*,
19. *Abraham Lincoln*,
20. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
21. *Peter Burkhalter*,
22. *John Ralſton*,
23. *Frederick Antes*,
24. *Daniel Montgomery*,
25. *Samuel Dale*,
26. *William Finley*,
27. *John Smiley*,
28. *James Johnſton*,
29. *Abraham Smith*,
30. *James M'Calmont*,
31. *George Smith*,
32. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled "*An Act to give the Benefit of trial by Jury to the public Officers of this State, and to other Perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary Manner by the Comptroller General of this State*," which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday,

Monday, December 13, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An extract from the Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair and read as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, 13*th December*, 1784.

A letter from the Attorney General of the ſtate, incloſing an opinion upon the caſe of *Jacob Vanderſlice* agreeably to the order of Council of the 11*th* inſtant, was read, and a reſolution taken that the petition of *Vanderſlice* with the aforeſaid opinion of the Attorney General be referred to the honorable the General Aſſembly.

Extract from the Minutes,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, Jun. *Secretary.*

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the Townſhip of *Lower Merion*, in the County of *Montgomery*, was read, praying to be annexed to the County of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the American Philoſophical Society held at *Philadelphia* for the promoting uſeful knowledge, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to veſt in the ſaid Society ſeventy three feet in length upon *Fifth-ſtreet*, and fifty feet in depth part of the State Houſe ſquare, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a ſuitable building, conſiſting of a hall for their meetings and public occaſions, a repoſitary for their collection of natural curioſities, their philoſophical apparatus, *&c.* and alſo a room for their library.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council read *December* 8, was read the ſecond time

Ordered, That be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Smiley* for the purpoſe expreſſed in ſaid Meſſage and to report thereon.

A letter from *Frederick A. Muhlenberg*, Eſq. late Preſident of the Council of Cenſors, with divers accounts incloſed, were read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

A petition from *Chriſtopher Gettig*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to veſt in him the excluſive right of keeping a ferry acroſs the *Suſquehanna*, from the town of *Sunbury* and for two miles below the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Edward Shippen*, Eſquire, read *December* 10, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Caſper Geyer*, read *December* 10, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Will*, and Mr. *Eyre*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Bond*, in behalf of himſelf aud others, read *December* 11, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Watts*, and Mr. *Mercer*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Cowell* and *Michael Deitrick*, read *December* 10, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 27, laſt, on the petition of *James Rumſey*, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled "*An* "*Act to alter and amend an Act of Aſſembly, entitled an Act for opening the* "*Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated lands within this* "*State*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled "*An act to grant to* Arthur Donnaldſon, *his Executors,* "*Adminiſtrators and Aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and uſing in the ri-* "*ver* Delaware, *a machine called* Hippopotamos, *by him invented, for the cleanſ-* "*ing of docks and raiſing ſand, gravel, dirt and other things from the bed of the* "*river*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed. and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled "*An act for* "*preſerving the previleges of public Miniſters of foreign Princes and States*," whereupon.

Ordered, That it be recommitted and that Mr. *Wayne*, be added to the committee in the room of Mr. *Ewing*, who hath leave of abſence.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 14, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Sample*, was read. praying to be appointed collector of exciſe in and for the county of *Bucks*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from a committee of the public creditors, was read, praying ſpeedy and effectual relief, agreeably to the tenor of their former petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz*.

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING been officially engaged in conſidering the act entitled "*An* "*act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States* "*in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this common-* "*wealth, againſt the ſaid United States*," paſſed the 1ſt inſtant, and the reſolutions of Congreſs of the 20th of *February*, 1782, and the 3d day of *June*, 1784, therein referred to as its foundation. We obſerve a mode adopted by this State, different from the reſolutions agreed to by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

We, therefore, eſteem ourſelves in duty bound to make this repreſentation, and to requeſt a free conference with your Honourable Houſe, upon an affair of ſo much moment.

It may be proper on this occaſion to take notice, that in the reſolutions of

Congreſs,

Congreſs, of the 20th of *February*, referred to by the ſaid act, there is a recommendation concerning " the final ſettlement of the proportion to be borne by each State, of the general expences of the war, from the commencement thereof until the 1ſt day of *January*, 1782, except the money loaned to the United States," but has not been proceeded upon by this State.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council-Chamber, PHILADELPHIA,
December the 14, 1784.

Whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe will hold the propoſed conference in the Aſſembly Chamber, at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning.

The committee to whom were referred, *December* 11, the petition of *Timothy Matlack*, and the further report in part of the committee appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report as adopted by the Council of Cenſors, as they ſhould deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *James Rumſey*; was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That the ſaid *James Rumſey* have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of his petition.

The bill entitled " *An act to alter and amend an act of Aſſembly entitled an* " *act for opening the Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate*;" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 15, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, The letter from *William Bradford*, Junior, Attorney General, and *James Wilſon*, Eſquires, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *February* 5, laſt; was read as follows, *viz.*

PHILADELPHIA, *Deceber* 4, 1784.

S I R,

THE council retained to conduct the cauſe between the commonwealth and *Timothy Matlack*, Eſquire, amicably entered in the Supreme Court agreeably to the reſolution of the Honourable the General Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania*, beg leave to report, that they find it impoſſible to carry the ſaid reſolution into effect ſo as to do juſtice to the commonwealth,

The Juſtices of the Supreme Court very properly require that the iſſue to be tried before them be formally joined and ſo framed that judgment may be given on the verdict of the Jury, to effect this, a declaration and an iſſuable plea became neceſſary—By the within paper which we have the honour to incloſe, it will appear that it was mutually underſtood that the declaration ſhould contain a general count for monies had and received by the defendant to the uſe of commonwealth, and that iſſue ſhould be joined thereon; under which the controverted points ſhould be determined and the balance aſcertained.

We are ſorry to add, that the defendant now refuſes to join iſſue or to enter any plea unleſs we reduce the ſum contained in the declaration, which is not greater than what appears to have been received by the defendant, as Secretary of the Council, and for which it has been conceived he ought to account.

As we are thus prevented from proceeding in the line propoſed, we have no expectation that the reſolution of your honourable Houſe can be carried into effectual execution—And we are of opinion that the balance of the defendants accounts can only be adjuſted by the Comptroller General's proceeding to the execution of the powers veſted in him, or by an adverſary ſuit being commenced againſt Mr. *Matlack*, for the ſum ſuppoſed to be due.

We wait the advice and inſtruction of the Honourable Houſe on this ſubject,

And have the honour to be
Sir, your moſt obedient and very humble ſervants,
JAMES WILSON,
WM. BRADFORD, Jun.

The Honorable GEORGE GRAY, *Eſquire*, SPEAKER, *&c.*

And the proceedings of the Council of Cenſors, relative to the ſame, were alſo read as follows, *viz.*

" SECTION 9. *The General Aſſembly may impeach ſtate criminals,*"

" It is the opinion of this committee, *That the proceedings and ſentence of* " *the General Aſſembly* (*5th* March 1783) *by which* Timothy Matlack, *late* " *Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, was declared* ' unworthy of ' public truſt and confidence,' *were unconſtitutional.*

" Timothy Matlack *was a public officer holding at the pleaſure of the Preſident* " *and Council, he was liable, as other civil officers, to an impeachment, and to* " *trial (as an officer) for his miſconduct, before the Supreme Executive Council;* " *he was alſo amenable in the ordinary courts of juſtice. But the Conſtitution of* " Pennſylvania *countenances no undefined and arbitrary powers, ſuch as the* " *Houſe aſſumed in his caſe; powers, that may be equally exerted to ſhelter a ſet* " *of defaulters and peculators, and to deſtroy perſons obnoxious to the predominant* " *party. In Mr.* Matlack's *caſe, there was neither ſummons, hearing, charge* " *or trial. In ſhort he was condemned unheard.*"

Whereupon, The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *Timothy Matlack*, and the further report of the committee appointed to extract ſuch parts of the report as adopted by the Council of Cenſors as they ſhould deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take order thereon, was read the ſecond time, and the reſolutions therein contained, adopted as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the caſe of *Timothy Matlack*, Eſquire, late Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council was not a ſubject proper for the interference of the legiſlature otherwiſe than by impeachment, if that mode had appeared to be neceſſary.

Reſolved, That the ſentence of the General Aſſembly paſſed by their vote of *March 5th*, 1783, by which the ſaid *Timothy Matlack* was declared "unworthy of public truſt and confidence," was unconſtitutional.

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*" *viz.*

Reſolved, That the ſaid vote of *March* 5, 1783, condemning the ſaid *Timothy Matlack* be reſcinded and annulled.

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Grubb* and Mr. *Cluggage*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *Thomas Long,*
10. *John Clark,*
11. *Joſeph Thomas,*
12. *John Keller,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perciſor Frazer,*
15. *John Craig,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *Samuel Boyd,*
18. *James Porter,*
19. *William Stoey,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Craig,*
22. *Robert Clark,*
23. *Frederick Watts,*

YEAS.

24. *John Harris,*
25. *William Brown,*
26. *Robert Whitehill,*
27. *Nicholas Lutz,*
28. *Abraham Lincoln,*
29. *Henry Spyker,*
30. *David Davis,*
41. *Peter Burkhalter,*
32. *Jonas Hartzel,*
33. *John Ralſton,*
34. *Frederick Antes,*
35. *Daniel Montgomery,*
36. *Samuel Dale,*
37. *William Finley,*
38. *William Todd,*
39. *John Smiley,*
40. *James Johnſton,*
41. *Abraham Smith,*
42. *James M'Calmont,*
43. *Peter Richards,*
44. *Robert Loller,*
45. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *Edward Jones,*
2. *Robert Ralſton,*
3. *Charles Humphreys,*
4. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

8. *David M'Conaughy,*
9. *Henry Tyſon,*
10. *Joſeph Lilly,*
11. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
12. *Robert Brown,*
13. *Robert Cluggage,*
14. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and thereupon,

Reſolved, That the reſolutions of the General Aſſembly of *March* 22, 1783, founded on the report of the committee of the ſame date, directing the Comptroller General " to proceed to the trial of the conteſted points in the accounts of *Timothy Matlack,* Eſquire, Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, by a jury in the Supreme Court, and that he be authoriſed to employ Council for that purpoſe," be alſo annulled and reſcinded and that it be left with the Supreme Executive Council to take ſuch order upon the ſubject of their Meſſage to the Houſe referred to in the ſaid report of the committee, as may be right and juſt and to which they are fully competent.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Spyker* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Supreme Executive Council, were introduced, and ſome time having been ſpent in a free conference on the ſubject of their Meſſage of yeſterday, the Supreme Executive Council retired to their own chamber.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

" *An act to veſt Congreſs with certain Powers for the protection of Commerce.*"

" *An act to amend an act entitled,* ' An act to enable the Owners and Poſ-
' ſeſſors of a certain Tract of marſh meadow Ground therein deſcribed ſituat-
' ed in the Townſhip of *Kingſeſſing* in the County of *Philadelphia* to keep the
' Banks, Dams, Sluices and Floodgates in repair and to raiſe a Fund to defray
' the Expence thereof."

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Memorial of *Francis Murray* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 21 laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial and Petition from divers inhabitants of the County of *Cheſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act entitled, " *A ſupplement to an act en-*
" *titled,* ' An act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkead*,
' *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon*, and *Joſeph Davis* to build a new
' Court-Houſe and Priſon in the County of *Cheſter*, and ſell the old Court-
' Houſe and Priſon in the Borough of *Cheſter*," and praying the petitions againſt the ſame read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, may be taken into conſideration and ſuch relief granted as to this Houſe ſhall appear juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 13, on the petition of *Caſper Geyer*, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts to whom was referred, *November* 30 laſt the petition of *Thomas Bond*, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act to diſſolve the Marriage of* Nathaniel Irwin *and*
" Martha *his wife*," was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for the*
" *relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and eighteen months men, and for other*
" *purpoſes therein mentioned*," and having debated the ſame in part,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled " *An act for the*
" *better and more certain eſtabliſhment of the court of Admiralty ſeſſions for the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania," and having debated the ſame in part.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled " *An act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public of-*
" *ficers of this ſtate, and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſum-*
" *mary manner, by the Comptroller General of this ſtate*," was read, the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 16, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Gartner*, and Mr. *Tyſon*, have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

A member preſented to the chair, a motion reſpecting a reviſal of the teſt-laws, which was read, and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and in part debated.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Finley*, and Mr. *Smiley*, be a committee to draught an anſwer to the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, dated the 4th day of this inſtant, *December*.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident. was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADEPHIA, *December* 16, 1784.

Gentlemen,

WE deſire, you will be pleaſed to return to us the papers relating to the accounts of *Timothy Matlack*, Eſquire, heretofore tranſmitted by us to the General Aſſembly, and ſuch other papers in your poſſeſſion, as may contain material information upon that ſubject.

I am with great reſpect,
Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The Honourable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

Ordered, That the clerk do furniſh the Supreme Executive Council with the papers in the foregoing letter requeſted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That to-morrow be aſſigned to take up for a third reading, the bill entitled "*An act for directing the mode of recovering debts* "*contracted before the 1ſt day of* January, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand* "*ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven*,"

The report of the committee, read *December* 11, on the petition of the officers late of the ſtate navy; was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *December* 10, on the reſolution of the 25th day of *June*, 1781, reſpecting the iſſuing of ſtate money; was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be empowered to draw on the State Treaſurer for the balances due to the officers and privates of the ranging companies, and other creditors in like circumſtances, to be paid in ſtate money of *April*, 1781.

The committee appointed, *December* 11, to enquire from what cauſe ſo large a ſum of public money, due upon the impoſt laws, appears to be outſtanding; made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act granting to* James Rumſey, *an excluſive right, for a certain term of* "*years, to navigate and build boats, calculated to work with greater eaſe and fa*-"*cility againſt rapid rivers*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled "*A fur*-"*ther ſupplement to the act entetled, an act for raiſing county rates and levies*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 6, on the motion reſpecting the arrearages of taxes due by the reſpective counties within this commonwealth; was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom the motion reſpecting the arrearages of taxes was referred, on *Saturday* laſt beg leave to report.

That they have examined and conſidered the contents of the ſaid motion and are of opinion that the eſtimates therein contained of the taxes impoſed, of the payments made thereon, and of the deficiencies or arrearages remaining due from the ſeveral counties, are juſtly ſtated according to the accounts which had been returned to the Comptroller General's Office to the 1ſt day of *Auguſt* laſt; which eſtimates are ſtated as follow, *viz.*

That the legiſlature of this ſtate have paſſed ſundry acts from the 20th of *March* 1778 to the 21ſt of *March* 1783, incluſive, for the purpoſe of raiſing £,20,996,995 : 2 : 7 continental money; £.367,281 ſtate money, and £.745,297 : 15 : 0 ſpecie and that the following apportionments thereof have been quotaed upon the ſeveral counties, *viz.*

	Continental Money.	*State Money.*	*Specie.*
Philadelphia City and County,	£.6,955,829 10 0	£.121,681 15 0	£.246,918 6 10
Bucks,	1,375,796 16 3	24,066 12 7	48,834 5 7
Cheſter,	2,208,496 19 9	38,633 15 7½	78,397 14 7½
Lancaſter,	2,988,952 1 8	52,286 4 2½	106,102 14 2½
York,	1,665,244 12 0	29,132 13 0	59,113 3 0
Cumberland,	1,565,190 11 3	27,380 3 0	55,561 13 0
Berks,	1,503,293 15 3	26,297 10 9½	53,364 14 9½
Northampton,	865,398 10 9	15,138 6 10	30,719 18 10
Bedford,	478,431 11 0	8,298 19 8½	16,841 1 8½
Northumberland,	808,297 12 2	12,220 15 7	20,803 9 7
Weſtmoreland,	586,063 2 6	12,144 2 10	16,239 11 10
Waſhington,			12,397 1 0
	£.21,000,995 2 7	£.367,280 19 2	£.745,293 15 0

That the following payments have been made by the reſpective counties on account of the foregoing quotas to the 1ſt of *Auguſt*, 1784, *viz.*

	Continental Money,	*State Money.*	*Specie.*
Philadelphia City and County,	£.6,955,829 10 0	£.114,116 15 2	£.138,128 18 7½
Bucks,	1,289,137 19 5	19,899 2 6	27,503 8 11½
Cheſter,	2,046,502 9 7	25,898 15 4	39,407 7 7
Lancaſter,	3,050,539 11 8	25,385 7 4	25,711 1 3½
York,	1,208,055 5 2	9,687 15 0	12,040 4 6½
Cumberland,	1,205,613 19 3	3,595 17 9	2,686 9 5
Berks,	1,287,153 16 6	19,569 14 0	12,492 6 11½
Northampton,	807,214 8 9	10,765 19 8	9,935 11 11½
Bedford,	39,897 2 1	916 16 3	719 6 2
Northumberland,	6,741 2 6	763 12 1	408 18 7½
Weſtmoreland,			
Waſhington,			25 0 0
	£.17,896,685 4 11	£.230,599 15 1	£.268,858 14 5½

And that the following balances upon the foregoing taxes were due by the ſeveral counties as therein ſpecified reſpectively, upon the 1ſt day of *Auguſt* laſt, *viz.*

Continental

	Continental Money.			*State Money.*			*Specie.*		
Philadelphia City and County				£.7,565	0	8	£.108,789	8	2½
Bucks,	86,658	16	10	4,167	10	1	21,334	16	7½
Cheſter,	161,994	10	2	12,735	0	3½	38,990	7	0½
Lancaſter,				26,900	16	10½	80,391	12	11
York,	457,189	6	10	19,444	18	0	47,072	18	5½
Cumberland,	359,576	12	0	23,784	5	3	52,875	3	7
Berks,	216,139	18	9	6,727	16	9½	40,872	7	10
Northampton,	58,184	2	0	4,372	7	2	20,784	6	10½
Bedford,	434,534	8	11	7,382	3	5½	16,121	15	6½
Northumberland,	801,566	9	8	11.457	3	6	20,394	10	11½
Weſtmoreland,	586,063	2	6	12,144	2	10	16.239	11	10
Waſhington,							12,372	1	0
	£.3,161,907	7	8	£.136,681	4	11	£.476,239	0	10½

But your committee have reaſon to believe that theſe deficiencies will be greatly diminiſhed by the exonerations of particular perſons, and of ſome entire diſtricts, in divers of the frontier counties, according to the tenor and meaning of the acts which impoſed the ſaid taxes, and by draughts made by public authority on divers of the County Treaſurers; which exonerations and draughts do not appear to have been conſidered in forming the foregoing eſtimates. It appears to your committee, nevertheleſs, that the different counties in this commonwealth have hitherto contributed towards the public expences in very unequal proportions, contrary to the juſt and equitable principles laid down in the 8th Section of the Declaration of Rights, "That every member "of ſociety hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and "property, and therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the "expence of that protection, and yield his perſonal ſervices when neceſſary, "or an equivalent thereto."

That whatever cauſes may have exiſted during the war for exonerating ſome of the inhabitants of this commonwealth from the payment of taxes, and indulging others with a delay of payment, theſe cauſes are now in a great meaſure, and it is hoped will ſoon be wholly, removed by the reſtoration of peace and a free internal commerce which muſt put it in the power of every member of the community to contribute his due proportion of the neceſſary demands of government.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolutions to the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be earneſtly deſired to take the moſt ſpeedy and effectual meaſures to cauſe the proper officers in the reſpective counties in this ſtate to collect and forward to the ſtate treaſury the arrearages of taxes now due; and to cauſe a proper return to be made of all ſuch perſons or diſtricts as have been exonerated by law from the payment of taxes, together with the amount of ſuch exonerations, and a juſt report of ſuch other cauſes as may impede the final collection and payment into the treaſury of any of the ſaid arrearages.

Reſolved, That if the Supreme Executive Council ſhall be of opinion that the laws in being are not ſufficient for the purpoſes aforeſaid this Houſe will make ſuch farther proviſion by law as may be requiſite to effect the ſame.

And whereas the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their act of the 27th day of *April* laſt, did, among other things, reſolve, "That if the whole balances of the two requiſitions [the one of eight millions and the other of two millions of dollars] ſhould be rigorouſly called into payment in the courſe of the preſent year, a compliance with ſuch call would produce much diſtreſs; and that a proportion ſhort of this ſhould be fixed on within the reach of the leaſt as well as the moſt able ſtates. That the ſtates therefore be required to furniſh within the courſe of the preſent year ſuch part of their deficiencies under the requiſition of eight millions as, with their payments to the cloſe of the laſt year, will make up one half of their original quota thereof;" "And alſo that before any further demand is made upon the States under the requiſition for two millions of dollars, or the requiſition for eight millions of dollars, Congreſs will reviſe the quotas of the ſeveral ſtates mentioned in the ſaid requiſitions reſpectively, and will make them agreeable to juſtice upon the beſt information Congreſs may have when ſuch demand is made."

And whereas the ſaid one half of the quota required of this State under the ſaid requiſition for eight millions amounts to 560,397 dollars, and the aforeſaid reſolution of Congreſs renders it proper, that an appropriation ſhould be made of the reſidue of the taxes laid in conſequence of the ſaid two requiſitions after payment ſhall have been made into the Continental Treaſury, or to the order of the ſuperintendant of the Finances of the United States, of the ſaid ſum of 560,397 dollars:

And whereas large arrearages yet remain due to the citizens of this State, for intereſt on their reſpective claims againſt the United States, as well as againſt this State in its ſeparate capacity, therefore

Reſolved, That ſuch and ſo much of the taxes demanded and aſſeſſed, by virtue of an Act paſſed the 27th of March 1782, intituled "An act to raiſe effective ſupplies for the year 1782," And by virtue of an Act paſſed the 21ſt of March 1783, intituled "An Act for providing the quota of fœderal ſupplies "for the year 1783" &c, as ſhall remain after the ſaid 560,397 dollars ſhall have been paid to the uſe of the United States, and after redeeming and diſcharging the notes iſſued by virtue of the ſaid laſt mentioned Act, ſhall be, and the ſame is and are hereby appropriated to and for the payment of the arrearages of the intereſt due to the citizens of this State as aforeſaid, in ſuch manner and form as ſhall be by law directed.

It was then moved and ſeconded to ſtrike out the words "*and it is hoped* "*will ſoon be wholly removed by the reſtoration of peace and a free internal com*-"*merce, which muſt put it in the power of every member of the community, to* "*contribute his due proportion of the neceſſary demands of government*," and to inſert in lieu thereof "*removed: And wheaeas the bleſſings of a general peace* "*and free commerce enables every county to make good former real deficiencies;* "*And whereas it would be unjuſt and oppreſſive to impoſe new taxes upon the* "*good people of this ſtate who have fully diſcharged their proportiou of taxes al*-"*ready impoſed, without taking effectual meaſures at the ſame time to compel the* "*ſpeedy payment of ſuch arrearages of taxes as remain juſtly due, from ſuch mem*-"*bers of the community as have hitherto made default*," whereupon

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *M'Conaghy*, and are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Thomas Long*,
4. *John Keller*,

YEAS.

5. *Richard Willing*,
6. *Anthony Wayne*,
7. *Edward Jones*,
8. *Robert Ralſton*,

YEAS.

9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
10. *Percifor Frazer*,
11. *Charles Humphreys*,
12. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
13. *Henry Miller*,

YEAS.

14. *David M'Conaughy*,
15. *Joſeph Lilly*,
16. *Robert Loller*,
17. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *John Craig*,
10. *Adam Orth*,
11. *Samuel Boyd*,
12. *James Porter*,
13. *William Stoey*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *John Harris*,
19. *William Brown*,
20. *Robert Whitehill*,

NAYS.

21. *Nicholas Lutz*,
22. *Abraham Lincoln*,
23. *David Davis*,
24. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
25. *Peter Burkhalter*,
26. *Robert Brown*,
27. *Jonas Hartzel*,
28. *John Ralſton*,
29. *Robert Cluggage*,
30. *Frederick Antes*,
31. *Daniel Montgomery*,
32. *Samuel Dale*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *William Todd*,
35. *Matthew Ritchie*,
36. *John Smiley*,
37. *James Johnſton*.
38. *Abraham Smith*,
39. *George Smith*,

So it was carried in the negative, and the amendment loſt.

Whereupon, On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the original report of their committee?*

It was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 17, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Thomas Scott*, *James Edgar* and *John M'Dowell*, was read, ſetting forth, that by a reſolution of a former Houſe of Aſſembly, dated the 21ſt day of *March*, 1783, they were appointed commiſſioners to receive all ſuch teſtimony as might be offered to them againſt *Dorſey Penticoaſt* and *John Cannon*, Eſquires, on the complaint of *James Marſhall*, Eſquire, Lieutenant of *Waſhington* county, and praying this Houſe to order payment of their accounts for expences incurred in the execution of their appointment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, made by Mr. *Wayne*, and ſeconded by Mr. *W. Brown*,

Reſolved, That, When a motion is made and ſeconded, the name of him who moves, and of him who ſeconds, ſhall be entered on the minutes,

A petition from *William White*, and *Richard Peters*, in behalf of the Corporation for the relief of the widows and children of clergymen in communion of the Church of *England*, in *America*," was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for altering the ſtile of the ſaid corporation, to remove any objections which might be made on account of the non uſer of the powers granted by their charter, and for altering and repealing certain clauſes of the ſaid charter.

Ordered to lie on the table.

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*,

That the motion, poſtponed yeſterday, ſhould be inſerted on the minutes, as follows, viz.

" Whereas the legiſlature of Pennſylvania is about to impoſe a tax on all
" eſtates real and perſonal, for the purpoſe of paying the intereſt on public
" ſecurities, which intereſt is to be paid in paper bills of credit: And where-
" as it is a conſtitutional principle—a principle upon which Americaa ppealed
" to arms and eſtabliſhed her independence," ' That no part of a man's pro-
' perty can be juſtly taken from him or applied to public uſes, but by his
' own conſent, or that of his legal repreſentatives, and that the people are
' not bound by any laws, but ſuch as they have in like manner aſſented to for
' their common good.'

" And whereas it appears that a great proportion of the inhabitants of this
" State, are disfranchiſed by Acts of Aſſembly founded on cauſes that do not
" now exiſt; therefore in order to render the impoſition of the ſaid tax per-
" fectly agreeable to the eighth and ſeventeenth ſections of the conſtitution,
" as well as to favor the more general circulation and credit of the paper cur-
" rency to be emitted (for the purpoſes aforeſaid,) and the more ſpeedy and
" punctual redemption thereof by taxes,

" *Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for reviſing
" the teſt laws, and admitting all ſuch perſons as have not been active or cri-
" minal in oppoſing the Liberties of this State, to the privileges of citizens."

Whereupon, On motion made by Mr. *Smiley*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill*, " to poſtpone the aforeſaid motion, until it is either adopted or rejected by the regular courſe of proceeding."

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Cluggage* and are as follow, viz.

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *James Vanſant*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *John Keller*,
10. *Arthur Irvine*,
11. *Adam Orth*,
12. *James Porter*,
13. *William Stoey*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,

YEAS.

17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *John Harris*,
19. *Robert Whitehill*,
20. *Nicholas Lutz*,
21. *Abraham Lincoln*,
22. *David Davis*,
23. *Peter Burkhalter*,
24. *Robert Brown*,
25. *John Ralſton*,
26. *Frederick Antes*,
27. *Daniel Montgomery*,
28. *Samuel Dale*,
29. *William Finley*,
30. *William Todd*,
31. *John Smiley*,

YEAS.

32. *James Johnſton*,
33. *Abraham Smith*,
34. *James M'Calmont*,
35. *Peter Richards*,
36. *George Smith*,

NAYS.

1. *William Will*,
2. *Manuel Eyre*,
3. *Thomas Long*,
4. *Richard Willing*,
5. *Anthony Wayne*,
6. *Edward Jones*,
7. *Robert Ralſton*,
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
9. *Perciſor Frazer*,
10. *Charles Humphreys*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
13. *Henry Miller*,
14. *John Hay*,
15. *David M'Conaughy*,
16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *William Brown*,
18. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
19. *Robert Cluggage*,
20. *Matthew Ritchie*.
21. *Robert Loller*,
22. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,

So it was carried in the affirmative,

Whereupon on motion by Mr. *Smiley* ſeconded by Mr. *J. Ralſton*,

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the ſaid motion poſtponed yeſterday and on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame*," the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Hay* and are as follow, viz.

YEAS,

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Peter Grubb, jun.*
7. *Henry Miller*,
8. *John Hay*,
9. *David M'Conaughy*,
10. *Joſeph Lilly*,
11. *Robert Cluggage*,

NAYS.

2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *John Keller*,
13. *Arthur Erwin*,
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
15. *Perſifor Frazer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *James Porter*,
19. *William Stoey*,
20. *David Jenkins*,
21. *Robert Craig*,
22. *Robert Clark*,
23. *Frederick Watts*,
24. *JohnHarris*,
25. *William Brown*,
26. *Robert Whitehill*,
27. *Nicholas Lutz*,
28. *Abraham Lincoln*,
29. *David Davis*,
30. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
31. *Peter Burkhalter*,
32. *Robert Brown*,
33. *Jonas Hartzel*,
34. *John Ralſton*,
35. *Frederick Antes*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,

NAYS.

37. *Samuel Dale,*
38. *William Finley,*
39. *William Todd,*
40. *Mathew Ritchie,*
41. *John Smiley,*
42. *Abraham Smith,*

NAYS.

43. *James M'Calmont.*
44. *Peter Richards,*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith,*
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

We Diſſent from the Majority of the Houſe,

Firſt. BECAUSE we conceive that the late revolution, and all juſt government are founded in the connexion between repreſentation and taxation.

Second, Becauſe it is directly contrary to the 2*d*, 7*th* and 8*th* articles of the Bill of Rights, and to the 6*th* and 7*th* ſections of the Frame of Government.

Third, Becauſe it is a violation of the oath taken by every member of this Houſe, to continue a law which abridges two fifths of the inhabitants of this ſtate of their rights and privileges as declared by the Conſtitution.

Fourth, Becauſe it is highly impolitic—tending to weaken the exertions of the ſtate—to leſſen its credit—to deſtroy the circulation of its money—to prevent the revival of legal uſury, and thereby to injure the trade and agriculture of the ſtate.

Fifth, Becauſe it debaſes the ſtate in the opinion of our ſiſter ſtates, all of whom have reviſed, or repealed their teſt laws, and thus leſſens our natural weight and uſefulneſs in the confederation.

Sixth, Becauſe it is dangerous to the freedom of the electors of the ſtate—furniſhing a principle of tyranny in rulers, and a precedent for impoſing teſts hereafter which may confine the power of the ſtate to a party or a *religious ſect.*

Seventh, Becauſe it continues a ſpirit of hoſtility among the citizens of the ſtate to each other, and a ſpirit of perſecution in the government for conſcience ſake.

Eighth, Becauſe it deprives the ſtate of the ſervices of a large body of men who are qualified to make uſeful citizens in time of peace.

Ninth, Becauſe it is contrary to Divine Revelation, to which every member of this Houſe has ſubſcribed his belief—which inculcates not only the forgiveneſs of injuries, but forbearance and univerſal benevolence.

Tenth, Becauſe it tends to throw the government into the hands of foreigners—many of whom entertain ideas of government contrary to the ſimplicity and purity of a republic.

Eleventh, And, Becauſe by confining the power of the State to a little more than one half its citizens, it creates a moſt alarming and oppreſſive ARISTOCRACY.

Anthony Wayne,
Richard Willing,
Joſeph Lilly,
Edward Jones,
Robert Clugage,
John Hay.

Agreeably to the order of the day the Houſe took up for a third reading the Bill entitled, “ *An act directing the mode of recovering debts contracted be-*

" *fore the firſt day of* January *in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hun-* " *dred and ſeventy ſeven,*" Whereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* read *December 3d, 7th, 8th,* and *11th,* were ſeverally read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Eyre,* Mr. *Long,* Mr. *Humphreys,* Mr. *J. Craig,* Mr. *Lilly,* Mr. *Watts,* Mr. *Davis,* Mr. *Burkhalter,* Mr. *Cluggage,* Mr. *Antes,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Ritchie,* Mr. *Smiley,* Mr. *M'Calmont,* and Mr. *G. Smith* to report thereon.

The Bill entitled " *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in* " *the ſeveral gaols of this commonwealth ;*" was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, " *An Act granting* James Rumſey *an excluſive right for* " *a certain term of years, to navigate and build Boats calculated to work with* " *greater eaſe and facility againſt rapid rivers,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That this Houſe will cloſe their preſent ſeſſion on *Wedneſday* next.

A petition from *Levi Griffiths,* late a lieutenant in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, praying that the certificates for the depreciation due on his pay may be received in diſcharge of a certain debt, due on mortgage, to the Loan Office of this State, from his brother *Evan Griffiths,* who is now inſane.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An account from *Samuel Dale,* Eſquire, was read ; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

An account from *Joſeph Fry,* was read ; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

Whereas the Council of Cenſors, in their report, recommended an alteration, amendment, or repeal of the ſeveral laws which are therein particularly pointed out, as contrary to the Conſtitution, and by order of this Houſe, a committee thereof have reported the ſaid laws in part, which report hath been adopted ; therefore,

On motion, made by Mr. *Whitehill,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Finley.*

Reſolved, That Mr. *Strawbridge,* Mr. *Jenkins,* Mr. *M'Conaughy,* and Mr. *A. Smith,* be a committee to bring in a bill to alter and amend the exciſe laws, and the ſeveral tax laws, ſo far as they empower the Collectors to break open the doors of dwelling houſes, before oath ſhall have been made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo doing, and ſo much of the Acts of Aſſembly, which authoriſe the Executive Council to impoſe fines, in a ſummary way, upon the Commiſſioners of counties ; and likewiſe, the Acts of Aſſembly made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury, to perſons charged with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the United States of America, or of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and to reſtore trial by jury, to perſons ſuſtaining damage by ſhips running foul of each other.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Todd*, and Mr. *Ritchie*, be a committee to bring in a bill to repeal an Act of Aſſembly, entitled “ *An Act to prevent the ſetting up a new and independent State within the limits of this Commonwealth*,” ſo far as it directs trial for offences in another county, than that in which the offence was or ſhall be committed.

Reſolved, That Mr. *R. Clark*, Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *Lincoln*, be a committee to bring in a bill to fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Hay*, Mr. *G. Smith*, and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee to bring in a bill to empower the Courts of Quarter Seſſions to vacate uſeleſs roads.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smiley*, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to declare the right of the Supreme Executive Council to appoint all officers civil and military, except in the caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution of this State, to the General Aſſembly, and the people.

And on the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *James Porter*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *Robert Craig*,
17. *Robert Clark*,
18. *John Harris*,

YEAS.

19. *Robert Whitehill*,
20. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
21. *Peter Burkhalter*,
22. *Robert Brown*,
23. *Jonas Hartzel*,
24. *John Ralſton*,
25. *Frederick Antes*,
26. *Samuel Dale*,
27. *Daniel Montgomery*,
28. *William Finley*,
29. *John Smiley*,
30. *James Johnſton*,
31. *Abraham Smith*,
32. *James M‘Calmont*,
33. *Peter Richards*,
34. *Robert Loller*,
35. *George Smith*,
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,

NAYS.

1. *William Will*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Perſifor Frazer*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,

NAYS.

8. *William Stoey*,
9. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
10. *Henry Miller*,
11. *John Hay*,
12. *David M‘Conaughy*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *Frederick Watts*,

YEAS.

NAYS.

15. *Nicholas Lutz,*
16. *William Brown,*
17. *Abraham Lincoln,*

NAYS.

18. *David Davis,*
19. *Robert Cluggage,*
20. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Thomas,* Mr. *J. Craig,* Mr. *Harris,* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* be a committee to bring in a bill, conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by M. *Smiley, to wit.*

" *Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to declare and*
" *eſtabliſh the Conſtitutional rights of the Supreme Executive Council, to draw*
" *for the public money in the hands of the Treaſurer of the Commonwealth, and to*
" *repeal ſeveral Acts of Aſſembly, ſo far as they are repugnant to the ſame.*"

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Cluggage,* and Mr. *Lilly,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *James Vanſant,*
3. *William Coats,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *Joſeph Thomas,*
6. *John Keller,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
9. *John Craig,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *James Porter,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Craig,*
14. *Robert Clark,*
15. *Frederick Watts,*
16. *John Harris,*
17. *Robert Whitehill,*
18. *Nicholas Lutz,*
19. *Abraham Lincoln*

YEAS.

20. *David Davis,*
21. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
22. *Peter Burkhalter,*
23. *Robert Brown,*
24. *Jonas Hartzel,*
25. *John Ralſton,*
26. *Frederick Antes,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *Samuel Dale,*
29. *William Finley,*
30. *William Todd,*
31. *John Smiley,*
32. *James Johnſton,*
33. *Abraham Smith,*
34. *James M'Calmont,*
35. *Peter Richards,*
36. *Robert Loller,*
37. *George Smith,*
38. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Richard Willing,*
7. *Edward Jones,*
8. *Robert Ralſton,*
9. *Percifor Frazer,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*

NAYS.

11. *William Stoey,*
12. *Peter Grubb, jun.*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *John Hay,*
15. *David M'Conaughy,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *William Brown,*
18. *Robert Cluggage,*
19. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Porter,* Mr. *Watts,* and Mr. *Lutz,* be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Pettit,* Mr. *Kuhl,* Mr. *Boys,* and Mr. *Whitehill,* be a committee to report on the Act entitled " *An act for raiſing " a further impoſt or duty on all goods, wares or merchandize, imported into this " State,*" paſſed the 15th of *March,* 1784, ſo far as it introduces a new officer; vide the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia.*

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Frazer,* Mr. *Whitehill,* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee to report a reſolution on the vote of the late Houſe, touching *Samuel Miles,* as he was thereby protected, &c.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the purpoſe of electing a State Treaſurer, for the enſuing year.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Engle,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Orth,* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee to bring in a fee bill.

The committee to whom was recommitted, *December* 7th, the bill entitled, " *An act for erecting and opening a Loan-Office, and for emitting the " ſum of thouſand pounds in bills of credit on loan within this " ſtate;*" made report, upon which the ſaid bill was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *A further ſupplement to the act, entitled,* " *An act for " raiſing county rates and levies,*" read *December* 16, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Saturday, December 18, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Sundry petitions ſigned by a conſiderable number of inhabitants reſiding in the vicinity of the city of *Philadelphia,* praying that a law may be paſſed to enable proper perſons to extend the Market-Houſe on High-Street in ſaid city from time to time, as may be judged neceſſary, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William White* and *Richard Peters,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* was read, praying that the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to a more central and convenient place, than that of *Norriton.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the ſurveyors and regulators of the city of *Philadelphia,* and the diſtricts of the *Northern Liberties,* and *Southwark,* was read, ſetting forth, that the laws heretofore paſſed for the regulation of the ſaid city and diſtricts, are inadequate to the good purpoſes intended, therefore praying leave to bring in a bill to remedy the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Doctor *Binney,* Doctor *Bond,* &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entitled, " *An*

" *act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the better ſecuring perſonal liberty, and* " *preventing wrongful impriſonments,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the limitation of actions to be brought for* " *the inheritance or poſſeſſion of real property, or upon penal acts of Aſſembly,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, December 20, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a State Treaſurer for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Eyre,* and Mr. *Whitehill,* be a committee to bring in a bill to repeal the Act entitled, " *An act to veſt in* " Iſaac Auſtin, *a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry and ferry landing, ſituate on the* " *north ſide of* Mulberry Street, *at the eaſtermoſt extremity thereof, in the city* " *of* Philadelphia, *late the property of* William Auſtin, *attainted of high* " *treaſon,*"

The bill entitled " *An act to erect part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a* " *ſeparate county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, " *An* " *act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt* " *of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the* " *public debts of this State,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in* " *the ſeveral gaols of this Commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A petition from *Joſeph Knight,* was read, ſetting forth that in the year 1774, he ſold to a certain *Oſwald Eve,* a tract of land, ſituate partly in the *Northern Liberties,* and partly in *Oxford* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia,* for the ſum of £.1855 and executed a deed in fee ſimple to the ſaid *Oſwald Eve,* and took two bonds and warrants of attorney, and alſo a mortgage on the premiſes, to ſecure the payment of twelve hundred pounds, with intereſt, being the balance of the conſideration money. That the ſaid *Oſwald Eve,* having been attainted of high treaſon, the aforeſaid premiſes were ſold for the uſe of the Commonwealth, and ſtating that there remains due on the ſaid bonds, and other ways, the ſum of £.2350 and that the ſame was allowed by the Juſtices of the Supreme Court; therefore, praying this Houſe to order payment thereof

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Commiſſioners for erecting a Court Houſe and Priſon, in and for the county of *Montgomery*, was read, ſuggeſting divers reaſons why the ſeat of juſtice ſhould not be removed from the neighbourhood of *Stony Run*, contiguous to the river *Schuylkill*, in *Norriton* townſhip.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, " *An act to alter and confirm the charter of the corporation for the relief of the* " *widows and children of clergymen, in communion of the Church of* England, *in* America," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to enquire, from what cauſe ſo much of the public money due on the impoſt laws, appears to be uncollected, read *December* 16, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for* " *the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and eighteen months men, and for o-* " *ther purpoſes therein mentioned*," and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

The bill entitled, " *An act to alter and amend an act of Aſſembly, entitled* ' *An act for opening the Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappro-* ' *priated lands within this State*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors, now confined* " *in the ſeveral gaols of this Commonwealth*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

A certificate ſigned by *Edward Burd*, eſquire, clerk of the court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, was preſented to the chair, and read, ſtating, that at a court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, held for the county of *Northumberland*, in *May* laſt, *Henry Shoemaker*, eſquire, one of the juſtices of the peace in and for the ſaid county, was convicted by a jury of the county, of a riot, committed on the 13th day of *May* laſt, by him and many others.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 21, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committe appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entitled, " *An* " *act to repeal an act of Aſſembly*, entitled " An Act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, " a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry, and ferry landing, ſituated on the north " ſide of *Mulberry-ſtreet*, at the eaſtermoſt extremity thereof, in the city of " *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of High Trea- " ſon,' " *and to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned, to* George " Adam Baker," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to repeal and alter ſuch parts of the Exciſe Laws, and other Tax Laws,* "*of this Commonwealth, as empower the Collectors of theſe taxes to break open* "*dwelling houſes, in order to make ſeizures and diſtreſſes, before oath or affirma-* "*tion be firſt made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo doing; the acts of Aſ-* "*ſembly which authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council of this State, to inflict* "*fines, in a ſummary manner, upon Commiſſioners of counties; the acts of Aſ-* "*ſembly, made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury, to perſons* "*charged with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the* "*United States of America, or of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and to reſtore the like privilege to perſons damaged by ſhips running foul of each other*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to enable the Courts of Quarter Seſſions of the ſeveral counties of this Com-* "*monwealth, to vacate roads and highways in proper caſes,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards* "*paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States; and for funding* "*and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this State,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Burgeſſes and inhabitants of the borough of *Lancaſter,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* was read, ſetting forth that this Commonwealth is ſeized and poſſeſſed of two lots of ground, ſituate on *Duke-ſtreet,* in the ſaid borough, whereon a powder magazine is erected, ſubject to a rent charge due, from the firſt day of *May,* 1777, to *James Hamilton,* Eſquire, lately deceaſed, his Heirs and Aſſigns, and praying this Houſe to enact a law, authoriſing and empowering certain Commiſſioners to expoſe the ſaid two lots and powder magazine to public ſale, or to veſt the premiſes in the petitioners, in truſt for the uſe of the inhabitants of the ſaid borough, on their paying into the treaſury of this commonwealth, ſuch ſum or ſums of money, as upon a reaſonable valuation, the ſaid premiſes ſhall be deemed to be worth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, to whom was referred, the account of *Samuel Dale,* Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled "*An act to alter and confirm the charter of the corpora-* "*tion for the relief of the widow and children of clergymen in communion of the* "*church of* England *in* America," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled "*An act to alter and amend an act of Aſſembly, entitled* 'An Act for opening the Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the 'unappropriated lands within this State,'' having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled "*An act for furniſhing the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this State*;" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"*And in order to carry into execution the intention of the Legiſlature of this State, manifeſted in their aforeſaid act, made and paſſed the twenty third day of* September, 1783, *entitled* 'An act for levying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of five per centum ad valorem, on all other goods, wares, and merchandize imported into this State, &c. and a tax upon real and perſonal property, for the diſcharge of the debts of the United States of *America*, agreeable to acts of Congreſs therein recited, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned, and to ſtrengthen and eſtabliſh the fund herein before mentioned and appropriated." *Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that the ſum of ſeventy ſix thouſand nine hundred and forty five pounds, ſeventeen ſhillings, and ſix pence, lawful money of this State, ſhall be aſſeſſed, raiſed and levied yearly and every year ſucceſſively, in and after the year of our* Lord *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty five, and to continue for ſo long time as ſhall be neceſſary for the purpoſes herein before and herein after mentioned, from and upon the eſtates real and perſonal, and perſons in the city and ſeveral counties in this State, in two equal proportions or payments, whereof the firſt ſhall be collected and paid into the treaſury, on or before the laſt day of* June, *and the ſecond on or before the firſt day of* December, *in each and every year.*

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Humphreys*, to ſtrike out after the word "*eighty*" the word "*five*" and to inſert in lieu thereof the word "*ſix*," and

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon, by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *M'Conaughy*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *John Hay*,
7. *David M'Conaughy*,
8. *William Brown*,
9. *Robert Cluggage*,
10. *William Todd*,
11. *Matthew Ritchie*.
12. *Peter Richards*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Percifor Frazer*,
15. *John Craig*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *Samuel Boyd*,
18. *James Porter*,
19. *William Stoey*,
20. *David Jenkins*,
21. *Robert Craig*,
22. *Robert Clark*,
23. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
24. *Frederick Watts*,
25. *John Harris*,
26. *Robert Whitehill*,
27. *Nicholas Lutz*,
28. *Abraham Lincoln*,
29. *David Davis*,
30. *Thomas Mawhorter*,

NAYS.

31. *Peter Burkhalter,*
32. *Robert Brown,*
33. *Jonas Hartzel,*
34. *John Ralſton,*
35. *Daniel Montgomery,*
36. *Samuel Dale,*

NAYS.

37. *William Finley,*
38. *John Smiley,*
39. *Abraham Smith,*
40. *James M‘Calmont,*
41. *George Smith,*
42. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Whereupon

The ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs.

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Cluggage*, to reconſider the following paragraph, *viz*,

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Loan-Officer ſhall and may pay, with and out of ſuch monies as he ſhall receive in each year as aforeſaid, the lawful intereſt for one year on all ſuch certificates of monies loaned to the United States, or other certificates of debts due from the United States, liquidated, aſcertained and authenticated according to the directions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, or according to the laws of this State, as ſhall be demanded by the holders or poſſeſſors of ſuch certificates reſpectively, and ſuch payment ſhall be indorſed on every ſuch certificate: Provided always, that ſuch certificates reſpectively were originally iſſued from the ſaid Loan-Office, or given or granted for articles furniſhed, or for ſervices done and performed during the late war by the citizens of this State, or by officers or ſoldiers admitted and adopted as of the *Pennſylvania* line or quota of the troops of this State, and in the name and for the uſe of ſuch perſon or perſons, or ſome other, who at the time of ſuch iſſuing was or were, or ſince hath or have been a citizen or citizens of this State by actual reſidence within the ſame; or in the name or for the uſe of a body politic or corporate within this State; and that there be the intereſt for one year at leaſt due thereon. And if any difficulty ſhall ariſe concerning the propriety of paying the intereſt which may be demanded by virtue of this act on any ſuch certificates, it ſhall be incumbent on the claimant to produce the proof neceſſary to eſtabliſh ſuch claim; and if the evidence offered be not ſufficient to ſatisfy the ſaid Loan-Officer, the ſame ſhall be referred to the Supreme Executive Council, whoſe determination and order thereon ſhall be concluſive: Provided alſo, that the indorſement of the ſaid Loan-Officer on any ſuch certificate, of the payment of one year's intereſt thereon in the notes iſſued for that purpoſe, by virtue of the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty firſt day of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty three, ſhall be deemed ſufficient evidence to admit ſuch certificate to be intitled to draw intereſt by virtue of this act, unleſs it ſhall appear that ſuch payment and indorſement were fraudulently obtained: And provided alſo, that Loan-Office certificates, received by any citizen of this State in payment for ſervices performed or articles furniſhed for the uſe of the United States, from any Quarter-Maſter, Commiſſary, or other officer of the United States, to whom the ſame were iſſued for that purpoſe in lieu of money, ſhall alſo be entitled to the payment of intereſt by virtue of this act, in whoſeſoever name or names the ſame may have iſſued from the ſaid Loan-Office.

And on the queſtion "*Will the Houſe reconſider the ſame?*

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Cluggage*, and are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
6. *Percifor Frazer,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Samuel Boyd,*

YEAS.

9. *John Hay,*
10. *David M'Conaughy,*
11. *Nicholas Lutz,*
12. *Abraham Lincoln,*
13. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14. *Robert Cluggage,*
15. *George Smith,*
16. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *John Keller,*
10. *Arthur Irvine,*
11. *John Craig,*
12. *Adam Orth,*
13. *James Porter,*
14. *William Stoey,*
15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Craig,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Frederick Watts,*

NAYS.

19 *John Harris,*
20. *William Brown,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*
22. *David Davis,*
23. *Peter Burkhalter,*
24. *Robert Brown,*
25. *Jonas Hartzel,*
26. *John Ralſton,*
27. *Frederick Antes,*
28. *Daniel Montgomery,*
29. *Samuel Dale,*
30. *Mathew Ritchie,*
31. *John Smiley,*
32. *James Johnſton,*
33. *Abraham Smith,*
34. *James M'Calmont,*
35. *Peter Richards,*

So it was carried in the negative,

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That the ſaid bill be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A letter from his excellency the preſident was preſented to the chair and read as follows, *viz.*

Philadelphia, December 21, 1784.

SIR,

Council has this day received the incloſures from the ſecretary of Congreſs, and think it proper that they ſhould be immediately communicated to the General Aſſembly.

I am with the greateſt reſpect,
Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The Honourable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral incloſures were alſo read.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 22, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A *MESSAGE* from the SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL was preſented to the Chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

Gentlemen,

Application has been made to us by the commiſſioners of the county of *Montgomery*, for the ſale of the Old Gaol and Work-houſe in this city, in purſuance of the powers veſted in us by the law paſſed the 28th day of *February*, 1780.

It appears from the law for erecting the county of *Montgomery*, that a part of the money ariſing from ſuch ſale, proportionable to the taxes paid by the ſaid county, ſhall be applied by the commiſſioners thereof, in purchaſing a piece of land and building a Court-houſe and Priſon: But we do not recollect any directions given by law, in what manner the other part of the ſaid money ſhall be applied for the benefit of the city and county of *Philadelphia.*

By a law paſſed the 17th day of *February*, 1762, a lot containing fifty feet in front on the north ſide of *Cheſnut-ſtreet*, and ſeventy three feet in depth, on the weſt ſide of *Fifth-ſtreet*, was appropriated to the uſe of the city, for erecting a public building to hold courts or common halls; and another lot of the ſame front on *Cheſnut-ſtreet*, and of the ſame depth on the eaſt ſide of *Sixth-ſtreet*, to the uſe of the county of *Philadelphia*, for like purpoſes.

We requeſt you will be pleaſed to take theſe circumſtances into conſideration and aſcertain by law how the money that may ariſe from the ſale before mentioned, and belonging to the city and county of *Philadelphia*, ſhall be applied.

It may be proper on this occaſion to inform the General Aſſembly, that there are in our poſſeſſion bonds and mortgages lately belonging to the corporation of the city, to the amount of nearly fifteen hundred pounds, excluſive of intereſt for ſeveral years.

JOHN DICKINSON.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Keller* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The bill entitled, "*An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office for the* "*ſum of fifty thouſand pounds*," was read the ſecond time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"*And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the Supreme Executive Council are hereby empowered and required to to nominate and appoint fit perſons, who ſhall be ſtiled and be the Truſtees of the General Loan Office of the State of *Pennſylvania*; and that they the ſaid truſtees, and their ſucceſſors and every of them, before they ſhall enter upon the execution of their truſt, or any part thereof, ſhall give and duly execute a bond to the preſident of the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, for the time being and his ſucceſſors, with three ſufficient ſureties, ſuch as he ſhall approve of, in the ſum of pounds, conditioned for the faithful execution of the truſt and performance of all and ſingular the acts, matters and things, enjoined and required of them by this act; and ſhall alſo take an oath or affirmation before ſome juſtice of the peace, to be endorſed on the ſaid bond, in the words following," *viz.*

"I, *A. B.* will to the beſt of my ſkill and knowledge, faithfully, impartially and truly perform and diſcharge the truſt required of me, by an act of General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, entitled, "*An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds*," that none may be prejudiced by my conſent privity or procurement; and that I will not lend out for, or apply or appropriate to my own private uſe or

“ benefit, or the uſe or benefit of any other perſon or perſons whatſoever, any of the monies to me intruſted, otherwiſe than according to the directions, true intent and meaning of the ſaid act.”

It was moved by Mr. *Moore*, and ſeconded by Mr. *W. Brown*, to ſtrike out the words “ *That the Supreme Executive Council are hereby empowered and required to nominate and appoint   fit perſons who ſhall be ſtiled and be the*” and in lieu thereof to inſert “*That   be and they are hereby nominated and appointed;*” And on the queſtion “ *Will the Houſe adopt the amendment?*

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow; *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *Elias Boys,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *Anthony Wayne,*
11. *Edward Jones,*
12. *Robert Ralſton,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *Charles Humphreys,*
16. *William Stoey,*
17. *John Hay,*
18. *David M‘Conaughy,*
19. *Joſeph Lilly,*
20. *Frederick Watts,*
21. *William Brown,*
22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *Abraham Lincoln,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Robert Brown,*
26. *Robert Cluggage,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *William Todd,*
29. *Matthew Ritchie.*
30. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *Thomas Long,*
2. *John Clark,*
3. *John Keller,*
4. *Arthur Erwin,*
5. *John Craig,*
6. *Adam Orth,*
7. *Samuel Boyd.*
8. *James Porter,*
9. *David Jenkins,*
10. *Robert Craig,*
11. *Robert Clark,*
12. *John Harris,*
13. *Robert Whitehill,*
14. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15. *Peter Burkhalter,*
16. *John Ralſton,*
17. *Frederick Antes,*
18. *Samuel Dale,*
19. *William Finley,*
20. *John Smiley,*
21. *Abraham Smith,*
22. *James M‘Calmont,*
23. *Robert Loller,*
24. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the amendment agreed to.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act for directing the mode of recovering the debts contracted before the firſt day of* January, *in the year of our* Lord *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven.*

And having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The report of the committee, read *December* 18, on the petition of Doctors *Binney*, *Bond*, and others, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That ſuch of the petitioners and others in ſimilar circumſtances who are by law entitled to half pay for life, be entitled to the commutation of five years full pay in lieu of their half pay for life agreeably to the prayer of the ſaid petitions to be paid in the ſame manner as the officers of the line of the army of this State are or ſhall be paid, and that their accounts be liquidated and ſettled by the Comptroller General and certificates given them for the ſame.

The bill entitled "*An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled* " An act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry, and ferry landing, ſituated on the north ſide of *Mulberry-Street*, at the eaſtermoſt extremity thereof, in the city of *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of high treaſon, " *And to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned to* George Adam Baker," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration ?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Lilly*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Elias Boys*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Robert Ralſton*,
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
15. *Perſifor Frazer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,
19. *James Porter*,
20. *William Stoey*,
21. *David Jenkins*,
22. *Robert Craig*,

YEAS.

23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *David M‘Conaughy*,
25. *John Harris*,
26. *William Brown*,
27. *Robert Whitehill*,
28. *Nicholas Lutz*,
29. *Abraham Lincoln*,
30. *David Davis*,
31. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
32. *Peter Burkhalter*,
33. *Jonas Hartzel*,
34. *John Ralſton*,
35. *Frederick Antes*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,
37. *Samuel Dale*,
38. *William Finley*,
39. *John Smiley*,
40. *Abraham Smith*,
41. *James M‘Calmont*,
42. *Robert Loller*,
43. *George Smith*,
44. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Anthony Wayne*,
2. *Edward Jones*,
3. *Charles Humphreys*,
4. *Peter Grubb*, jun.

NAYS.

5. *John Hay*,
6. *Joſeph Lilly*,
7. *Robert Cluggage*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for directing the mode of recovering debts contracted before the firſt day of* January, " *in the year of our* Lord *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown*, and Mr. *R. Craig*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
11. *Percifor Frazer*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *Samuel Boyd*,
14. *James Porter*,
15. *William Stoey*,
16. *David Jenkins*,
17. *Robert Clark*,
18. *Peter Grubb*, jun.

YEAS.

19. *Frederick Watts*,
20. *John Harris*,
21. *Nicholas Lutz*,
22. *Abraham Lincoln*,
23. *David Davis*,
24. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
25. *Peter Burkhalter*,
26. *Jonas Hartzel*,
27. *John Ralſton*,
28. *Frederick Antes*,
29. *Daniel Montgomery*,
30. *Samuel Dale*,
31. *William Finley*,
32. *John Smiley*,
33. *Abraham Smith*,
34. *Robert Loller*,
35. *George Smith*,
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Manuel Eyre*,
3. *John Clark*,
4. *Anthony Wayne*,
5. *Richard Willing*,
6. *Edward Jones*,
7. *Robert Ralſton*,
8. *Charles Humphreys*,
9. *John Craig*,
10. *Robert Craig*,

NAYS.

11. *John Hay*,
12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *William Brown*,
15. *Robert Cluggage*,
16. *Matthew Ritchie*.
17. *James Johnſton*.
18. *James M'Calmont*,
19. *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative,

DISSENTIENT,

BECAUSE it tends to deſtroy that ineſtimable right which every perſon ſhould hold in the fruits of his own labour; and eſtabliſhes a principle, which in the end, muſt be deſtructive of all commercial intercourſe, induſtry, and independence.

Becauſe Courts of Juſtice ſhould be ever open; a ſtop put to their proceedings, though for the expreſs purpoſe of alleviating the diſtreſſes of a *part* of the community, muſt be eſteemed a precedent of very dangerous conſequence to the people in general, and a violation of the 26*th* Sect. of the Conſtitution: Nor can we conceive, at this time, that any creditor would carry ſuits at law to extremity againſt that debtor who had, in virtue of the tender laws, an opportunity of paying in a depreciated currency, and whoſe conduct, as honeſt men, have laid their creditors under ſuch obligations.

Becauſe it will introduce numerous law ſuits to ſecure debts recently contracted, leaſt *Britiſh* ſubjects and creditors, antecedent to 1777, ſhould, by obtaining judgments, bind the eſtates of debtors, to the excluſion of other creditors.

Becauſe the conſequence, in the end, may be of more real injury to the debtor, than if the law had never paſſed.

Anthony Wayne,
Joſeph Lilly,
Robert Cluggage,
John Hay,
Robert Ralſton,
Edward Jones,
David M'Conaughy.

The report of the committee, read *December* 11, on the petition of the officers late of the ſtate navy ; was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That the officers formerly belonging to the naval department of this ſtate, who were diſcharged in the year 1778, be entitled to depreciation on their pay to the time of their diſcharge, and that their accounts be liquidated and ſettled by the Comptroller General, and certificates given to them or their legal repreſentatives accordingly ; and that a bill be brought in for that purpoſe.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the order of the day for the adjournment of this Houſe, be poſtponed until *Friday* next, in the forenoon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled " *An act to ſettle* " *and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State in the ſervice of the United* " *States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed the fourth day* " *of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy eight.*"

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Newberry,* in the county of *York,* was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Cumberland,* agreeably to a line ſet forth in the ſaid petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Newberry* townſhip, in the county of *York,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the conduct of *John Rankin,* Eſquire, a Juſtice of the Peace, in and for the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, " *An* " *act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the Judges of the Su-* " *preme Court* ;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, " *An* " *act to declare and eſtabliſh the Conſtitutional rights of the Preſident and Council* " *of this State, to draw for the public monies in the hands of the Treaſurer of the* " *Commonwealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly, ſo far as they are repug-* " *nant to the ſame* ;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 23, 1784, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of the *American* Philoſophical Society, read *December* 13, was read the ſecond time, and

On the queſtion "*Shall the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown*, and Mr. *Coats*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Elias Boys*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Arthur Irvine*,
12. *Richard Willing*,
13. *Anthony Wayne*,
14. *Edward Jones*,
15. *Robert Ralſton*,
16. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
17. *Percifor Frazer*,
18. *Charles Humphreys*,
19. *Adam Orth*,
20. *Samuel Boyd*,
21. *James Porter*,
22. *William Stoey*,
23. *David Jenkins*,
24. *Robert Craig*,
25. *Robert Clark*,

YEAS.

26. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
27. *David M‘Conaughy*,
28. *Joſeph Lilly*,
29. *Frederick Watts*,
30 *John Harris*,
31. *Nicholas Lutz*,
32. *Abraham Lincoln*,
33. *David Davis*,
34. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
35. *Peter Burkhalter*,
36. *Robert Brown*,
37. *John Ralſton*,
38. *Robert Cluggage*,
39. *Frederick Antes*,
40. *Samuel Dale*,
41. *William Finley*,
42. *William Todd*,
43. *Mathew Ritchie*,
44. *John Smiley*,
45. *Abraham Smith*,
46. *James M‘Calmont*,
47. *Peter Richards*,
48. *Robert Lollor*,
49. *George Smith*,
50. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *John Craig*,
2. *William Brown*,

NAYS.

3. *Daniel Montgomery*,

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating the Preſbyterian Church of* Falling Spring, *in* Guilford *townſhip, in the county of* Franklin," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled "*An act for directing the mode of recovering debts contracted before the firſt day of* January, *in the year of our* Lord, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law and the ſpeaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and eighteen months men*," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act to repeal and alter ſuch parts of the exciſe laws,* " *and other tax laws of this commonwealth, as empower the collectors of theſe* " *taxes to break open dwelling houſes, in order to make ſeizures aad diſtreſſes before oath or affirmation be firſt made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo* " *doing; the acts of Aſſembly which authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council of* " *this ſtate to inflict fines in a ſummary manner, upon commiſſioners of counties;* " *the acts of Aſſembly made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by* " *jury, to perſons charged with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the United States of* America, *or of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty;* " *and to reſtore the like privilege to perſons damaged by ſhips running foul of each* " *other,*" was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, " *An act for veſting in the American Philoſophical Society, held at Philadelphia* " *for the promoting of uſeful knowledge,*" *a certain lot of ground, being part of* " *the State-Houſe ſquare,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, on the Meſſage fromthe Supreme Executive Council, relative to the eminent ſervices of *Thomas Paine*, eſquire; was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

A letter from the ſaid *Thomas Paine* was preſented to the chair and read as follows, *viz.*

December, 20*th*, 1784.

Honorable Sirs,

I feel myſelf exceedingly honored by the liberal and genteel meſſage of the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, in their recommendation of my ſervices in the late revolution to the conſideration of the honorable Aſſembly, and by the friendly diſpoſition ſhewn by the Houſe thereto, and the report of the committee thereon. As the time of the preſent ſitting is drawing to a cloſe, and the weight of public buſineſs preſſing, I requeſt the committee to preſent my grateful acknowledgements to the Houſe, and to ſignify that it will be equally convenient to me, and, I preſume, for the reaſons I have already mentioned, more convenient to to the Houſe, to leave the matter, in the ſtate it now is in, until their next meeting. I am the more induced to make this propoſition to the committee, becauſe by ſo doing the intention of the houſe to make ſuch compenſation as they ſhall think thoſe ſervices deſerve, will be generally known throughout the ſtate.

I am honorable ſirs,
Your obliged and obedient humble ſervant,
THOMAS PAINE.

The Honorable,
William Moore,
Thomas Long,
Anthony Wayne, and
John Smiley,
} Eſquires,

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *December* 17, to bring in a reſolution, on the vote of the late Houſe touching *Samuel Miles*, eſquire, as he was thereby protected, made report, which was read and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The commiſſioners appointed by this ſtate and the commonwealth of Virginia to determine, by aſtronomical obſervations, the extent of five degrees of longitude weſt from the river *Delaware*, in the latitude of *Maſon* and *Dixon*'s line, and to run and mark the boundaries which are common to both ſtates, made report of their proceedings in that buſineſs, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a bill entitled " *An act to authoriſe and* " *direct the immediate payment of the ſum of fifteen thouſand pounds ſterling to* " *the deviſees and legatees of* Thomas Penn *and* Richard Penn, *and to the wi-* " *dow and relict of the ſaid* Thomas Penn, *being the firſt yearly payment, di-* " *rected to be paid to them, by an act of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entitled* " *An act for veſting the eſtate of the late proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in the* " *commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The certificate ſigned by *Edward Burd*, eſquire, clerk of the court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, ſtating that at a court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery held for the county of *Northumberland*, in *May* laſt, *Henry Shoemaker*, eſquire, one of the juſtices of the peace in and for the ſaid county, was convicted by a jury of the county, of a riot commit- [illegible] the 13th day of *May* laſt, by him and many others, which was read the [illegible] ne the 20th of *December*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

[illegible]*ved*, That the ſaid *Henry Shoemaker*, for his miſconduct as aforeſaid, [illegible] and he hereby is removed from his office of juſtice of the peace for the county of *Northumberland*.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That a writ do iſſue to the ſheriff of the county of *Waſhington*, commanding him to hold an election for a repreſentative in the room of *John Stevenſon*, eſquire, lately deceaſed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entitled, " *An* " *act to declare the right of the preſident and council of this commonwealth, to* " *appoint all officers civil and military, except in the caſes reſerved by the conſti-* " *tution of this ſtate, to the General Aſſembly and the people*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries* " *for the judges of the Supreme Court*," was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*An act to enable the Courts of Quarter Seſſions of the ſeveral* " *counties of this commonwealth, to vacate roads and highways, in proper caſes*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a meſſage to his excellency the preſident, and the Supreme Executive Council, in anſwer to their meſſage of the 4th day of *December*, inſtant; which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act to declare and eſtabliſh the conſtitutional rights of* " *the preſident and Council of this ſtate, to draw for public monies in the hands* " *of the treaſurer of the commonwealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly, ſo*

“ *far as they are repugnant to the ſame,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled “ *An act for veſting in the* American *Philoſophical Society,* “ *held at* Philadelphia, *for the promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of* “ *ground, being part of the State Houſe Square,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 24, 1784. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to declare the right of the preſident and council of* “ *this commonwealth, to appoint all officers civil and military, except in the caſes* “ *reſerved by the conſtitution of this ſtate, to the General Aſſembly and the people,*” was read the ſecond time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the choice of the ſpeaker of the houſe, clerks and other officers and ſervants of the houſe, proper and befitting to the General Aſſembly as a legiſlative body, and the treaſurer of the ſtate, delegates to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs, regiſters of wills and officers for granting letters of adminiſtration and recorders of deeds, as mentioned by the conſtitution to be in the appointment of the General Aſſembly, are and ſhall be carefully reſerved to the ſaid General Aſſembly, and that all other officers neceſſary to the execution of the laws of this commonwealth, ſuch as are ſpecially reſerved in the choice of the people, or plainly directed by the conſtitution, to be otherwiſe choſen and appointed excepted, be deemed, taken and declared to be in the choice and appointment of the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, any law, uſage or practice to the contrary notwithſtanding.”

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne,* ſeconded by Mr. *Humphreys,* to inſert after the word “ *Congreſs*” the words “ *Truſtees of the Loan Office, collectors of* “ *cuſtoms and exciſe,* and *inſpectors of flour.*”

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Wayne,* and Mr. *W. Brown,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *Richard Willing,*
6. *Anthony Wayne,*
7. *Edward Jones,*
8. *Robert Ralſton,*
9. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*
11. *Peter Grubb,* junior,

YEAS.

12. *John Hay,*
13. *David M'Conaughy,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *Frederick Watts,*
16. *William Brown,*
17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Abraham Lincoln,*
19. *David Davis,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *William Todd,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*

NAYS.

2. *Frederick Kuhl,*

NAYS.

3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Joſeph Thomas,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Perſifor Frazer,*
9. *John Craig,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *Samuel Boyd.*
12. *James Porter,*
13. *William Stoey,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert Craig,*
16. *Robert Clark,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*

NAYS.

19. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
20. *Peter Burkhalter,*
21. *Robert Brown,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *John Smiley,*
28. *Abraham Smith,*
29. *James M'Calmont,*
30. *Peter Richards,*
31. *Robert Loller,*
32. *George Smith,*
33. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

So it was determined in the negative, whereupon,
Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The meſſage to his excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, in anſwer to their meſſage of the 4th day of *December* inſtant, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time and adopted as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania *to his Excellency the* PRESIDENT, *and the Honourable the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

WITH all due reſpect and attention, we, the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, have taken into conſideration your meſſage of the 4th inſtant, and though public debates of this nature ſeldom produce real conviction, either in the minds of thoſe with whom they originate, or by whom they are conducted, we are of opinion that the plan for providing for the payment of the public debts, againſt which the preſent addreſs militates, is founded on ſuch principles of natural and political juſtice, that nothing farther will be neceſſary to evince its merit, than to ſtate ſome of thoſe leading principles, and recal to memory thoſe ſentiments, which, in time of public danger, operated on every feeling mind with truth and energy. Nor can we ſuppoſe the ſecurity and eaſe reſulting from peace have or can obliterate them. We truſt we ſhall alſo rectify ſome miſtakes into which your honourable board have fallen in point of fact. We admit, and we avow it in the face of the world, that we eſteem it a duty to pay the debts contracted on the faith of the public, according to their juſt value, and to the amount aſcertained by thoſe officers, who, under public authority, have ſtated and certified them; and that every thing which interferes with ſuch a payment, either in the creation of the funds from which it is to be made, or by direct diminution of the debt ſo acknowledged, we conſider unjuſt and impolitic, and to which, of courſe, we cannot aſſent.

As the meſſage generally and highly approves the principles, on which the ſeveral acts of the 12th *March,* 1783, "*For the ſale of certain lands therein* "*mentioned,*" and 1ſt *April,* 1784, entitled, "*An act for opening the Land-*

" *Office*," we need only obſerve, on this point, that it was ever our intention generally to adopt and carry them into effect, and that the evils ariſing from long credit, from which would probably reſult uncertain payment, and factious combinations againſt the peace of the ſtate, cannot ariſe, no ſuch credit being to be given by the act paſſed this ſeſſion. It is propoſed to ſell the lands at moderate prices, and immediately receive the conſideration, which the meſſage admits as beſt calculated to extinguiſh the demands on the commonwealth, and relieve the people in the article of taxes. The miſchiefs of increaſing public credit, and of courſe the dealing in public funds, are not ſo well known to us as the meſſage ſuppoſes. We know ſuch funds exiſt in all free ſtates, the moſt flouriſhing and beſt regulated, and preſume that they are only dangerous from their abuſe. We flatter ourſelves, that on this occaſion, with caution and moderation, they will not be liable to the dangers reſulting from an improvident exerciſe of power, either in the mode of adminiſtring ſuch funds, or their diſproportion to our ability in ſupporting them. We conſider theſe funds as providing the means of payment of a juſt debt, and that by vigorous exertions in reducing the debt as ſpeedily and into as ſmall a compaſs as poſſible, we ſhall moſt effectually guard againſt the conſequences ſuggeſted, of dealing in public funds; for the debt being leſſened or diſcharged, the opportunities for ſuch ſpeculations will be diminiſhed or done away. If your excellency and the honorable Board ſuppoſe, that by making no other proviſion for the relief of the public creditors than what will ariſe from the ſale of lands, ſuch creditors, driven by deſpair, and pinched by neceſſity, will be compelled to take lands on any terms, or will ſell their certificates at any price to thoſe who ſeek to ſpeculate in land; we are at a loſs to reconcile it to thoſe profeſſions of tenderneſs expreſſed for widows, orphans, and worthy citizens, yet retaining their certificates. For when we recur to the proviſion made by former Legiſlatures, for theſe *reſpectable claimants*, in the acts of Aſſembly enumerated in the meſſage, we find them totally inapplicable to the end. The act paſſed the 21ſt, *March*, 1783, entitled, " *An act for providing the quota of fæderal ſupplies*," and its ſupplement, paſſed the 25th *September* following, only gave a temporary relief for payment of intereſt for one year, and were declared to be for enabling them to pay their taxes for the ſupplies of the current year. And as for the act entitled, " *An act to appropriate certain monies ariſing from the exciſe*," with its ſupplement of the 20th of *September*, its benefit was excluſively limited to the officers and ſoldiers of the army. Thoſe *reſpectable claimants*, therefore, certainly have never received that attention the meſſage ſo explicitly declares, and other efforts than thoſe mentioned in the ſaid acts are requiſite for their relief, or they muſt remain, not merely in the *uncomfortable* ſtate ſo coldly deſcribed in the meſſage, but in a ſtate of great poverty and diſtreſs. The objection to the juſt and honourable payment of theſe debts, becauſe the folly of ſome and neceſſity of others have thrown a part of them into other hands than the original holders, at a price below their apparent value, ſeems to us as deſtruſtive of all future credit, as preſent juſtice. Being in their nature negotiable, and originally made transferable, who will ever receive them hereafter, if they are thus depreciated by public authority? Let it alſo be remembered, that whatſoever price the preſent poſſeſſors may have paid for ſome of theſe certificates, the public had a valuable conſideration, and that a great proportion of them yet remains in the hands of the original poſſeſſors; and as no diſcrimination is propoſed, and muſt be extremely difficult, what is to become of theſe *reſpectable claimants?* Are they to ſuffer, becauſe their intereſts are accidentally blended with thoſe of others leſs ſo? It does not appear to us conſonant to juſtice or ſound policy, to depreciate honeſt debts, becauſe they vary in the degree of merit; for that any are unjuſt in themſelves, none pretend.

To theſe original poſſeſſors none of the obſervations in the meſſage apply, which ſuppoſe ſuch an accumulation of value. They expected to receive their real value; they aſk no more; and this they are entitled to;—to oblige them to take leſs muſt be confeſſedly unjuſt.—But we feel no apprehenſions of a few perſons being ſuddenly raiſed into great wealth, while others are proportionably depreſſed; Becauſe we ſee every ſpecies of public certificates have been long current, and the moſt unexceptionable funds provided in many caſes to ſupport them; ſuch, for inſtance, as the appropriation of the exciſe for the benefit of the army, and yet we ſee no ſuch exorbitant wealth, or depreſſed induſtry.—To make common converſation (and that founded in ſuppoſition) a ground of public meaſures from which injuſtice to the widow, orphan, and worthy citizen will follow, we cannot ſuppoſe the generous and benevolent temper of *Pennſylvania* will admit, and yet we can deduce no other conſequence, from admitting that thoſe who were about to buy certificates were led by general converſation to contemplate the lands of the ſtate as the only fund for their redemption. We truſt the public proceedings of this ſtate will have a more ſtable and ſolid foundation.

That the certificates will riſe in value in conſequence of a well grounded hope of juſt and honourable payment, we hope and expect, but that it will enhance the price beyond their original value we cannot believe, and their advance towards it will be fully compenſated by recovering public credit, renewing confidence in government, and enabling us to eſtabliſh a Loan-Office, from which the diſtant freeholders will be accommodated with money on eaſy terms and at a reaſonable intereſt. But how will this be attained, if, inſtead of applying the wiſdom and energy of government to reſtore public credit—we fall into every temptation to commit public injuſtice!—Whether the debts are juſt, is, in our view, the firſt conſideration—this is not queſtioned, for they are admitted not only to be juſt, but meritorious. The next is, how ſhall they be diſcharged? We ſay honeſtly, as a ſource of future confidence and ſupply, equitably, as conformable to natural juſtice, and gratefully, as a proper return to thoſe, who in times of public danger and difficulty, lent their property to effect the great purpoſes of liberty and independence.

In confirmation of theſe ſentiments, we ſhall recur to a meſſage of your excellency's and the honourable Board, of *Auguſt* 18, 1783, as the moſt unexceptionable authority. There it is ſaid, "The diſcharge of debts due by the ſtate, or if that cannot be ſoon accompliſhed, at leaſt the regular payment of the intereſt, ſhould be provided for, and well ſecured by adequate funds; ſo that the beſt ſatiſfaction which circumſtances will permit, may be given to the creditors. Continual, and ſometimes very affecting applications, are made to us; but, while we perceive the obligations of juſtice, and the injuries and diſtreſſes attendant upon a non-compliance with them, we are unable to afford relief. It is eſſential to the public welfare, that public credit, upon which alone confidence can be founded, ſhould be ſupported; and we earneſtly wiſh the General Aſſembly would take into their ſerious conſideration the ways and means for eſtabliſhing a more regular and improved ſyſtem of revenue. We believe, that the burthens of the good people of this ſtate might be thus relieved; and we ſhall eſteem ourſelves very happy if we can furniſh any uſeful information upon this ſubject." Contemplating the reſources of the ſtate, we cannot, with your excellency and the honourable Board, conſider the circumſtances of the treaſurer's notes as proofs of our inability to ſupport our credit, becauſe a want of punctuality in the redemption of all our public ſecurities is equally to be lamented. Even the antient emiſſions of paper money, before the revolution, were not punctually redeemed, but certainly not from inability. It ariſes from the delay of the collection of taxes, which it is the duty of the executive part of government to remedy.

We wiſh and hope to eaſe our conſtituents under the public burthens. We partake of them ourſelves, and therefore, muſt be always intereſted to leſſen them; but we ſee no cauſe to depreciate the ability of the ſtate, as well as its credit, when we reflect, that in the year 1782, when we had neither reſted from the ravages of the war, nor taſted the bleſſings of peace, a tax of £.420,000 was impoſed, and though heavy, was not inſupportable. In the year 1783, a farther tax was laid, for £.225,000 without any aid from the ſale of lands. The preſent ſupply calls for a tax of but £.76,945 17 6 annually, which is the very ſum recommended by Congreſs, and adopted, by a late Aſſembly, for twenty five years; and when the purpoſes to which it is to be applied are duly conſidered, and that its duration will probably be terminated in a much ſhorter time than twenty five years, "The generous and benevolent temper of *Pennſylvanians*," will not permit it to be deemed grievous, nor unduly burthenſome.

We come now to the laſt objection againſt thus providing for the payment of the public debts; that it will interfere with fœderal meaſures. We wiſh your excellency and the hon. Board, inſtead of reſting on a general declaration, had pointed out this interference. Beſides the inſtance above mentioned, the Journals of Congreſs abound in reſolves and recommendations, in which the utmoſt energy of language is exerted to induce us to pay theſe debts honourably and juſtly. We mean to ſhew our reſpect for the councils of that honourable body, by our compliance, as well as by our profeſſions. We have therefore collected their ſentiments, as ſcatttered through divers of their proceedings.

In the celebrated letter of the 13th *September*, 1779, after expreſſing, with the moſt pathetic eloquence, the baſeneſs and bad policy of failing to ſupport the public faith, they urge its inhumanity as well as injuſtice: That the complaints of ruined widows and fatherleſs children, whoſe ſole ſupport reſts in the public funds, have already gone forth, and with the greateſt ſolemnity, they bid us take care that they riſe no higher.

On the 18th *April* following, they declare, that the holders of Loan-Office certificates, ſhould ſuſtain no loſs by any depreciation of the bills loaned ſubſequent to their reſpective dates.

On the 28th of *June* following they declare, that the principal of all loans that have been made ſhall finally be diſcharged at the full current value of the bills when loaned, and the intereſt in the mean time paid on the ſame juſt principles.

On the 16th *December*, 1782, Congreſs declared, that it is eſſential to the juſtice and preſervation of public faith, that whenever a nation is obliged, by the exigencies of public affairs, to contract a debt, proper funds ſhould be eſtabliſhed, not only for paying the annual value or intereſt of the ſame, but for diſcharging the principal, within a reaſonable period.

It then goes on to encourage the ſtates to exertions of payment, by aſſuring them, that whenever the produce of the revenue ſhall exceed the intereſt, it ſhall be applied to ſinking the principal—But, unfortunately, no fund has been found by Congreſs, to pay even the intereſt or any part of it, from that time to the preſent.

In 1783, another moſt animated addreſs from Congreſs, in the 9th page of a pamphlet called "*Addreſs and Recommendations to the States*," after enumerating the claſſes of public creditors, ſpeaks of thoſe who originally lent their money, thoſe who have purchaſed certificates, and whoſe property has been otherwiſe advanced or aſſumed for public ſervice, and this is the language of that reſpectable body, a juſt regard to whoſe counſels the honourable Board declare, and we concur in believing, is eſſential to our happineſs.

"To diſcriminate the merits of theſe ſeveral deſcriptions of creditors, would be a taſk equally unneceſſary and invidious. If the voice of humanity pleads more loudly in favour of ſome than of others, the voice of policy, no leſs than of juſtice, pleads in favour of all. A wiſe nation will never permit thoſe who relieve the wants of their country, or who rely moſt on its faith, its firmneſs, and its reſources, when either of them is diſtruſted, to ſuffer by the event."

In the following paragraph of the ſame addreſs, which we earneſtly recommend to the attention of your excellency and the honourable board, theſe ſentiments are further urged and enforced, by conſiderations of the moſt powerful nature, ſuch as, in our opinion, exclude every idea that the meaſures of any particular ſtate, at this time of day, for the relief of theſe ſufferers, can be diſagreeable to Congreſs.

The ſtate of New-Jerſey has made a proviſion ſimilar to ours, except that it reſts on taxation only, while ours has the lands as an auxiliary—and we have never heard their conduct objected to, as interfering with fœderal meaſures, or weakening the union.

If from defects in the confederation, or too limited views, ſome ſtates heſitate or fail in compliance as they have done from year to year, ſhall we bring poverty and ruin on the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, whoſe circumſtances the meſſage admits demand immediate attention? Do not theſe debts make a part of the national debt, and if leſſened now, will not our future burthens be leſs. Thus while we ſubſtantially comply with the recommendations of Congreſs, we ſhall perform an act of duty, juſtice and humanity, in relieving our ſuffering fellow citizens.

A regard to the conſtitution and the confederation, and affection to the commonwealth, which ſeemed to require we ſhould rectify many miſtakes in fact, from which erroneous conſequences have been deduced in the meſſage, have called forth this reply. We do not mean to wage a war of meſſages and addreſſes, which the experience of former times ſhews, irritate, but never convince. The buſineſs of legiſlation neither admits our employing our time or ſpending public money in diſputes. If the engagements of your excellency and the Honorable Board, leave you at leiſure to attend to other cares than thoſe of the council, we ſhall always be happy to receive your aſſiſtance and advice, in the approved and long practiſed mode of conference, not only as the moſt conſtitutional, when there is only a ſingle branch of legiſlature, but beſt adapted for reaſoning and conviction, peace and harmony.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,
JOHN BAYARD, SPEAKER.
Aſſembly Chamber, Philadelphia, December 24, 1784.

The houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committe appointed, "*To enquire from what cauſe ſo large a ſum of public money due upon* "*the impoſt laws appears to be outſtanding, and report thereon,*" when the ſame was adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed "*To enquire from what cauſe ſo large a ſum of* "*public money, due upon the impoſt laws, appears to be outſtanding, and report* "*thereon.*"—Report,

The

That they have made the enquiry to them committed, and find, from the information of the collector of the impoſts, and from the books and papers by him exhibited to your committee, that there appeared to be due from ſundry individuals, on bonds, on the 1ſt day of *November* laſt, about the ſum of ſixty thouſand pounds. That the ſaid collector hath, as well by advertiſements publiſhed in the newſpapers, as otherwiſe, uſed endeavours to collect the monies due on the ſaid bonds; that ſome of the ſaid monies have been collected ſince the ſaid firſt day of *November*, and that the ſaid collector expreſſed ſtrong expectations, founded on the aſſurances he had received from the obligors in the ſaid bonds, that the whole of the monies due as aforeſaid, would be paid in the courſe of one or two months.

Your committee nevertheleſs deem it expedient that meaſures ſhould be taken to expedite the collection of the ſaid debts, and more eſpecially thoſe which have been long due;—and therefore your committee offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be deſired to take proper order for procuring the payment of the monies due on the ſaid bonds.

A member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, " *A ſupplement to an act* " *entitled*, " An act for the ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the " purpoſe of redeeming and paying of the certificates of depreciation given " to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line or their repreſentatives, " and for appropriating certain other lands therein mentioned, for the uſe of " the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided off to them ſeverally, at the " end of the war, ſo far as the ſame reſpects the donation of lands comprized under the ſecond diviſion of the ſaid act," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Archibald M'Lane*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth that he received two wounds at the battle of Brandywine, which hath entirely diſabled him from procuring a livelihood and, praying to be allowed the penſion given to the ſoldiers who were wounded or otherwiſe diſabled during the late war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the regulators of the city of *Philadelphia*, and diſtricts of the *Northern Liberties* and *Southwark*, read *December* 18, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported, that they had affixed the Seal of the Laws to the following Acts of this Houſe.

1. *A ſupplement to the act entitled*, " An act for raiſing by way of Lottery " the ſum of forty two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads " leading from the city of *Philadelphia*, to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and " towards the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*.

2. *An act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth, againſt the ſaid United States*,

3. *An act to veſt Congreſs with certain powers for the protection of commerce.*

4. *An act to amend an act entitled*, " An act to enable the owners and poſſeſſ- " ors of a certain tract of marſh meadow ground, therein deſcribed, ſituated " in the townſhip of *Kingſeſſing*; in the county of *Philadelphia*, to keep the " banks, dams, ſluices, and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray " the expence thereof."

5. *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors, now confined in the ſeveral gaols of this commonwealth*,

6. *An act to alter and amend an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* ": An act for opening the Land-Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated " lands within this ſtate."

7. *An act for directing the mode of recovering debts contracted before the firſt day of* January,, *in the year of our* Lord *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſeven.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls Office.

Adjourned until *Tueſday*, the firſt day of *February* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

MINUTES

OF THE

SECOND SESSION

OF THE

Ninth General Aſſembly

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday*, the Firſt Day of *February*, in the Year of our LORD One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five.

Tueſday, February 1, 1785, P. M.

MR. Speaker with a number of members met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, February 2, 1785, P. M.

A quorum of repreſentatives met.

On motion *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit* and Mr. *Smiley* be a committee to inform the Supreme Executive Council, that the houſe being met, is ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

A letter from *John Oakly*, eſq. was read, praying to be appointed one of the commiſſioners to aſcertain, in conjunction with others of the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*, what iſlands in the river *Delaware*, do of right belong to this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the honorable *Thomas Cockey Dey*, eſq. ſpeaker of the houſe of delegates of the ſtate of *Maryland*, referring to his letter of the 30th day of *November*, 1781, to a former houſe of aſſembly, reſpecting the fixing a certain ſtandard for gold and ſilver coin.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the directors of the Library Company of *Philadelphia*, was read reemonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for veſting in the* "American Philoſophical Society *held at* Philadelphia, *for the promoting* "*uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground being part of the State-Houſe ſquare*," and praying the joint petition of the ſaid Library Company and of the Philoſophical Society, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *March* 11th laſt, may be taken into conſideration and the prayer thereof granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 3, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed to inform the Supreme Executive Council, that the Houſe being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them; reported their having performed that ſervice.

The ſecretary of the Supreme Executive Council attending at the door was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read as follows, *viz*:

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

AS an affectionate concern for the welfare of *Pennſylvania* prompted our Meſſage of the fourth of *December* laſt, the ſame diſpoſition will govern our reply to your Anſwer of the twenty-fourth of that month: For if, in the diſcuſſion of affairs ſo important to the good people of this ſtate, we ſhould ſuffer any motive to tempt us into digreſſions from the ſubject, we ſhould think ourſelves wanting in our duty to them, and in the reſpect that upon every occaſion ought to be obſerved, and which we are always pleaſed to have opportunities of teſtifying, for your Honourable Houſe.

It affords us much ſatisfaction to find, that two points which appeared to us very material, one of them mentioned in our meſſage, and the other in conference with your committee appointed upon it, are now provided for, in the "*Act to alter and amend the act for opening the land-office*, &c. paſſed the 21ſt day of *December* laſt, ſo that the inconveniences apprehended from giving credit upon the ſales of the lands, and from not limiting the price below which they ſhould not be ſold, are to be prevented.

Happy ſhould we have been, if your ſentiments had correſponded with our own upon another queſtion of moment;—that is, whether this commonwealth ſhall immediately aſſume all the debts of *The United States* to citizens of this ſtate, and eſtabliſh a perpetual fund for paying annually ſix per cent. intereſt upon them, under the direction of the ſtate.

It cannot be pretended, that the honor and juſtice of this ſtate are more loudly called upon to make this aſſumption, than the honour and juſtice of *The United States* are, to render it needleſs. As little can it be pretended, that "Public Credit will be recovered" by a procedure, announcing that the " Public Credit" of the Union, in which the proſperity of all Confederated *America* is bound up, cannot be relied upon.

Our ſituation is that of a ſtate united with others by compact; and hence is derived a primary obligation not to take any ſtep, that may " interfere with federal meaſures, or tend to weaken the Union."

With this ſituation we were anxiouſly deſirous of reconciling the relief of our fellow-citizens, who are creditors of *The United States.* It was therefore our firſt wiſh, that any means deviſed for this purpoſe might have been managed with the authority of Congreſs. Their wiſdom, integrity and benevolence with regard to ſuch creditors, are evinced by their acts of the 4*th* of *September*, 1782, the 18*th* of *April*, 1783, and the 27*th* and 28*th* of *April* 1784. Proper repreſentations would ſurely have obtained all the ſucceſs, that might be compatible with the moſt eſſential intereſts of the Union.

But as the legiſlative branch choſe to proceed without making this application, our next wiſh was, that the buſineſs might be conducted in ſuch manner, that we might not appear either to dictate to *The United States* in Congreſs aſſembled, or to reduce this ſtate to ſuch a condition, as to be unable to ſupply competent payments upon future requiſitions to the Continental Treaſury, unleſs by a general diſtreſs of the people.

Thus the great queſtion has ariſen, whether *Pennſylvania* ought, in the circumſtances actually exiſting, to eſtabliſh the before deſcribed perpetual fund.

Your Honourable Houſe has expreſſed a " wiſh, that we, inſtead of reſting on a general declaration, had pointed out the interference of ſuch an eſtabliſhment with federal meaſures." With deference for that wiſh, we will now endeavour to ſhew the interference.

By the Confederation, " *All charges and expences* incurred for the common defence, or general welfare, and allowed by *The United States* in Congreſs aſſembled, are to be defrayed out of a *common treaſury*, to be ſupplied by the ſeveral ſtates, and the neceſſary ſums for the ſervice are to be *aſcertained, appropriated, and applied* by Congreſs."

In their act of *December* 16, 1782, Congreſs ſay—" By the Confederation, Congreſs have an abſolute diſcretion in determining the quantum of revenue requiſite for the national expenditure. No ſtate can diſpute the obligation to pay the ſum demanded, without a breach of the Confederation; and when the money comes into the treaſury, the appropriation is the excluſive province of the federal government."

It is indiſputable, that theſe powers comprehend the whole management of the national debt. Congreſs, in their act of *April* 27, 1784, mention their requiſition of 1,200,000 dollars on *September* 4, 1782, thus—" This requiſition gave *licence* to the ſtates to apply ſo much as ſhould be neceſſary of their reſpective quotas of it, to the payment of intereſt due on certificates iſſued from the Loan-Office of their own ſtates, and other liquidated debts of *The United States* contracted therein."

Then, mentioning their requiſition of one half of the eight millions of dollars, they add—" But while this proportion of former deficiencies is of neceſſity called for, under the preſſure of demands which will admit neither denial nor delay, and the punctual compliance of every ſtate is expected, to enable the *fœderal adminiſtration* with certainty to ſatisfy theſe demands, it is earneſtly and warmly recommended to the *abler* ſtates, to go as far beyond this proportion *in ſpecie*, as their *happier ſituation* will admit, under an aſſurance, that ſuch further contributions will be applied towards diſcharging the public debt agreeably to the preceding ſtatement, and will be placed to their credit in the next requiſitions, with intereſt thereon from the time of payment.” Again, on the 28th of the ſame month, Congreſs, “ obſerving that of the purpoſes for which money is wanting, about three fourths can be anſwered by nothing but *money itſelf*,” require *them* to “ be paid in *actual money*, allowing diſcounts of intereſt with domeſtic creditors as to the other fourth; the ſaid three fourths, or greater proportion, if any ſtate ſhould not avail itſelf of the facilities in the degree admitted, paid in money at the ſame time, to be applied according to the above ſtatement.” As to the balances that may afterwards remain of the requiſitions of eight and of two millions, Congreſs, by their reſolutions of *April* laſt, defer “ the calling them into payment,” until the ſtates ſhall be more able to comply.

Such are the powers veſted in Congreſs, and ſuch has been their unqueſtioned exerciſe of them. How wiſely or beneficially they have been thus veſted, it would be idle to enquire. It has been demonſtrated, that in order that they may provide in the beſt manner for the honor, the defence, the harmony, and welfare of theſe ſtates, their hands ought rather to be ſtrengthened than weakened.

Taking into our ſerious conſideration theſe circumſtances, and the deſign of eſtabliſhing a *perpetual* fund for “ *the quota of this ſtate*, of the annual intereſt of the aggregate debt of *The United States* contracted during the late war,” and for *appropriating* and *applying* the ſame, *under the direction of this ſtate*, to the payment of *its own citizens*, it appeared to us a matter of the utmoſt importance, that this plan ſhould be executed upon ſuch principles, as to be ſatisfactory to *The United States*.

Here is to be the faith of this ſtate perpetually plighted to *a particular claſs* of the creditors of *The United States*, and its revenues, to the amount of *its whole quota of the debt*, excluſively and without limitation of time pledged to them. We ſay, without limitation of time: For, the proviſo in the bill publiſhed, “ That the *payment* and *appropriation* aforeſaid of the ſaid quota ſhall ceaſe, whenever *The United States* ſhall make and carry into execution *other* effectual and permanent proviſion for paying the annual intereſt and arrearages of intereſt, due and ariſing on their aforeſaid debts,” does not remove the objection. This clauſe plainly alludes to the unexecuted recommendation of the 18th of *April*, 1783, beforementioned in the bill, and to the recital before made in it, “ that a conſiderable time may elapſe, before a general and effective plan for the good purpoſes aforeſaid may be *formed* and *ratified* by the ſeveral ſtates, ſo as to be put in execution.” But, until *ſuch other permanent* proviſion and plan ſhall be ſo *made* and *ratified*, the *firſt* obligation under the Confederation, for every ſtate to pay its quota upon requiſitions of Congreſs into the “ *common treaſury*,” ſtill continues in full force.

We therefore were of opinion, that if the *permanent appropriation* and *application* by this ſtate, as it pleaſes, of portions of its quota of the general “ charges and expences” to a particular part of thoſe charges and expences, ſo as to re-claim on that account againſt requiſitions of *The United States*, could be rendered agreeable to them in Congreſs aſſembled, it muſt be by theſe TWO conſiderations—Firſt, *the diſtreſs* of the perſons provided for—and ſecondly, *the keeping ourſelves in capacity*, if poſſible, after ſuch proviſion, to make competent payments into the “ common treaſury.”

Both theſe ends, we expected, might be attained, by confining the proviſion to the *original holders* of certificates, and to ſocieties to which they had been given for *benevolent* purpoſes—to be continued by the ſame law to the holders of them upon alienations *ſubſequent to the proviſion*, as was done in the caſe of alienated certificates mentioned in a ſupplementary act, paſſed the 20*th* of *September*, 1783, ſo that the *original holders*, who are the perſons diſtreſſed, might, in ſelling their certificates, have the advantage of their riſing in value, in conſequence of the proviſion being made.

The plea of diſtreſs for theſe "*reſpectable* claimants" would be truly affecting; but how much muſt it be confuſed and weakened, by mixing with theſe claims the demands of *purchaſers of certificates*. It was with this view, we made the few and ſhort obſervations in our meſſage reſpecting thoſe purchaſers. Their merits or demerits, we undertake not to judge: But, we contend, that their pretenſions ought not *on this occaſion* to be blended with thoſe of *real diſtreſs*. Let the ſtate deviate as little as poſſible from the confederation; and in deviating, let not the *only* plea be falſified, that can be offered in its excuſe. We are for leaving the purchaſers of certificates what they voluntarily and cheerfully became, upon terms that muſt be extremely advantageous to them—that is—creditors of *The United States*—with the *privilege* that has raiſed the value of their certificates, and they had no right to aſk, repeatedly held forth by the laws of this ſtate, of laying them out in lands, which at the price fixed by the laſt law, we believe, may be generally done by them at the rate of from three pence to twelve pence an acre.

In ſupport of theſe ſentiments, permit us to quote the following memorable words from an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of *July*, 1780, after the operation of the laws for making continental bills of credit a legal tender had been ſuſpended, and ſigned by the worthy gentleman as ſpeaker, who now holds the ſame honorable office.—"The *depreciation* of the currency of *The United States*, now in circulation, and the *ſpeculation* which has taken place *in conſequence thereof*, has opened a door to *numerous frauds*, and may operate to the *general injury* of *virtue* and *morality*, and to the *great diſhonor* of the ſtate, unleſs timely prevented: And *the proſpect of an appreciation*, unleſs regulated on *juſt and equitable principles*, might likewiſe be followed by a train of *evils as pernicious as thoſe we have already experienced*, and not only *encourage* but *enable* ſuch perſons, as have obtained *large ſums* for *ſmall values*, to derive an *undue advantage* therefrom."

Why need this ſtate interfere with the intentions of Congreſs concerning ſuch purchaſers. That honorable body has declared, that a proper attention ſhall be paid to them. Let us remember, that they have declared alſo, that if, from the deficiencies "of the *leaſt able* ſtates, accommodation cannot be effected among the ſeveral objects mentioned, a *preference* ſhall be given in the diſcharge of the intereſt due upon the *foreign* debt." Surely we cannot forget, that in *this reſolution*, are involved CONSIDERATIONS OF THE HIGHEST CONSEQUENCE to theſe ſtates.

Speaking of thoſe to whom this debt is due, Congreſs, in their addreſs of the 18th of *April*, 1783, employ this emphatic language—"To AN ALLY, in the firſt place, who, to the exertion of his arms in ſupport of our cauſe, he added the ſuccour of his treaſure; who, to his important loans, has added liberal donations; and whoſe loans themſelves carry the impreſſion of his magnanimity and friendſhip."

"To INDIVIDUALS IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, in the next place, who were the firſt to give ſo precious a token of their confidence in our juſtice, and of their friendſhip for our cauſe, and who are members of a republic, which was ſecond in eſpouſing our rank among nations."

What arguments can juſtify *Pennſylvania*, for giving a "preference" over SUCH CREDITORS—to dealers in certificates; and deliberately chuſing to pay *forty* and *fifty* per cent. intereſt annually to the latter upon their *real* capitals, rather than to pay her proportion of *four* or *five* per cent. intereſt annually to the former on their *real* capitals? for, the intereſt of the foreign debt is no higher. What will the nations of *Europe* think of our honor, our faith, our gratitude, and our union, when they hear of ſuch proceedings?

'Tis true, if all the other ſtates were in "*happier ſituation*," and could punctually pay their reſpective quotas, the intereſt of the foreign debt would ſtill be regularly paid, though we ſhould prohibit, as the funding bill propoſes, any part of it from being paid by our quota: But, from the words of Congreſs, it ſeems that this is not quickly to be expected; and therefore, with the "*earneſtneſs* and *warmth*" before mentioned, and EXCITED BY THEIR INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF OUR NATIONAL AFFAIRS, they entreat "the *abler* ſtates" to yield all the aid in their power. Inſtead of a compliance with this entreaty, the funding bill is calculated to prevent Congreſs from managing *even our quota of the intereſt* of the national debt.

'Tis alſo true, that if "a general and effective plan for the good purpoſes aforeſaid can be *formed* and *ratified* by the ſeveral ſtates, ſo as to be put in execution," as the bill recites, *that* intereſt may then be regularly paid. But it is *uncertain*, when ſuch a plan will take place. If ſoon, the proviſion againſt which we object is needleſs—If late, the objection operates with greater force.

The ſecond conſideration, which in our opinion might have effect in rendering an *appropriation* and *application* by this ſtate, as it pleaſes, of portions of its *quota* of the general charges and expences *to a particular part* thereof, in the manner before mentioned, agreeable to Congreſs, was—the keeping ourſelves in capacity, if poſſible, after ſuch proviſion, to make competent payments into the "common treaſury."

The "bills of credit" to be emitted are to be received in payment, not only for lands, but alſo "for all cuſtoms, impoſts, duties and debts to the ſtate, and for the arrearages of all general taxes, and for all taxes to be aſſeſſed." How far this regulation, and a *new appropriation* by this ſtate of the reſidue, after one half of our quota of the eight millions of dollars ſhall be paid, as the funding bill expreſsly purports, are reconcileable with the acts of Aſſembly of 1782 and 1783, by which the faith of this ſtate is given to *The United States*, "for the payment of our quotas of the eight millions and two millions of dollars, *in gold and ſilver*, to the orders of the ſaid ſtates," merits conſideration; eſpecially as Congreſs, in *April* laſt, aſſigned this reaſon for not immediately making larger demands than they then did——that, "if the *whole balances* of thoſe two requiſitions ſhould be rigorouſly called into payment *within the courſe of that year*, a compliance with ſuch call would produce much diſtreſs."

Our ſentiments are, that deducting from our quota of the national debt a ſum equivalent to the annual intereſt on purchaſed certificates, which, upon ſuch an eſtimate "as preſent circumſtances will admit," we believe, are *one half* of all that have been iſſued in this ſtate, ſuch ſum, together with our quota of requiſitions for the expenſes of the government of the union, be promptly paid from time to time, if our finances can enable us, into the, "common treaſury." *The United States* in Congreſs aſſembled will then *appropriate* and *apply* the money, *as they ought to do*. The dealers in certificates will ſcarcely venture to ſay, that thoſe, of whom they freely became creditors, are not to be truſted with paying them.

By proceeding in this manner, we ſhall allow ourſelves means to diſcover what our real ſtrength is, and alſo what is the real weight of the burthen now treated of. We ſhall hold ourſelves in reſpectful readineſs to comply in a ſatisfactory manner, it is hoped, with requiſitions of Congreſs, which will undoubtedly be made, as *honor*, *juſtice*, and *the general welfare* ſhall require. If our quota of ſuch requiſitions ſhall not equal the income which we can eaſily raiſe and ſpare, how bright a proſpect will open to *Pennſylvania*, for employing the opportunity, in improving the navigation of our rivers and the paſſage upon our roads, the defects of which threaten us with immenſe loſſes. By theſe and other "cares," not unworthy the rulers of a free people, a lively circulation may be promoted, and a ſtrong connection formed between the ſeveral counties; the mutual bleſſings flowing from thence be univerſally perceived and valued; and in a ſhort time, the whole body of the ſtate, healthy, robuſt, active, and animated, be enabled chearfully to bear loads, that otherwiſe would be oppreſſive.

How far the ability of the ſtate will at preſent extend, is a point demanding the ſtricteſt attention and inveſtigation, before this commonwealth, in the circumſtances now exiſting, ſhall commit her faith and revenue for an indefinite period of time, and for an indefinite ſum of money, in the manner deſigned by the funding bill, publiſhed for conſideration.

It appears by the reſolutions of the General Aſſembly of the 4th of *December* laſt upon which the funding bill is founded, that the ſum of £ 183,232 muſt be annually raiſed, "to pay the intereſt of the debts of *The United States* to citizens of this ſtate, the intereſt of the debt due from and aſſumed by this ſtate in a ſeparate capacity, and the payments to the late Proprietaries, *excluſively* of the civil liſt, and other ordinary expences of government, and alſo of ſuch other debts as are funded on particular revenues."

It further appears from theſe reſolutions, that the eſtimate of debts is inaccurate, and only ſuch "as preſent circumſtances will admit;" and Congreſs, mentioning the national debts, give the amount, "as far as they can be now aſcertained."

Proper methods are in proceſs for determining with certainty, and in reaſonable time, the debts due by *The United States*, and by this ſtate. But, the buſineſs is not yet accompliſhed. At preſent it is *unknown*, what may be the amount of the engagements meditated by this ſtate, eſpecially as by the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the *firſt* of *December* laſt, for appointing additional commiſſioners, if it is carried into execution, debts may be aſſumed by this ſtate as due by *The United States*, for which no credit may be allowed by them to this ſtate. Another riſque this ſtate will be expoſed to, by the multiplicity of counterfeit certificates; a miſchief which can only be effectually guarded againſt by the authority of Congreſs, from their controul over the public officers. This we are aſſured of, that there is a great maſs of demands againſt *The United States*, ſtill remaining to be liquidated in this ſtate. Whatever may *prove* to be the amount of them when they ſhall be ſettled, the funding bill *includes them all*. The duties upon importations, and the taxes of £ 76,945 17 6, are *appropriated* for paying the intereſt *upon the whole*; and, agreeably to the principles of the bill, if thoſe duties and taxes are not ſufficient, *others muſt be impoſed*.

Your Honorable Houſe is well appriſed of theſe additional impoſitions, for your own reſolutions of the 4th of laſt *December*, a few minutes before our meſſage was delivered, and which are the foundations of the funding bill, declare, that "an annual tax of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS is neceſſary." It cannot be imagined, that the ſtate will make a ſcramble for the intereſt money among the citizens, and pay the moſt importunate, leaving the reſt unpaid. Indeed, if the money upon this fund ſhould not come into the treaſury as faſt as it is demanded, which will probably be the caſe, there can be no doubt but *ſome* creditors will, from their activity and ſituation, have a manifeſt ſuperiority over others who live at a greater diſtance, and are not ſo well

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ceive it in the firſt inſtance: For, if it ſhould continue on a par with gold and ſilver, how can they get more of it by their labour or by their products, than they can of gold and ſilver at preſent. Can it, by any intrinſic energy, raiſe the *real* prices of labour or products? If it can, what a misfortue will it be for this ſtate to have them raiſed within itſelf, by means operating ſolely within itſelf, to prices diſproportionate to the relative demands of commerce abroad?

Whether, after recent experience, and while *ſtate* money to the amount of upwards of £160,000 already iſſued, and depreciated to two and an half for one, is ſtill falling in price, though, lands may be patented by it, and it is called for in taxes, and while ſuch quantities of certificates are paſſing, it will be practicable to render paper money "a medium of commerce, rather than an article of commerce, is to be determined. If *Pennſylvania* was a ſtate, the commerce of which was entirely internal, and gold and and ſilver could be proſcribed and utterly baniſhed, paper might be that medium. But, if our merchants are to deal in a currency, which has no eſtimation in other ſtates and countries, which cannot anſwer other uſes of money, and is ſubject to dangers and apprehenſions of fluctuation in value, to what *embarraſſments* will they, and to what *hazards* will the commerce of the ſtate be expoſed? How is it, in the nature of things, poſſible, that paper can anſwer all the purpoſes of gold and ſilver, unleſs the poſſeſſor can, when he pleaſes, convert it into ſuch money? Is it not likely then, that theſe metals will at length prevail over ſuch a currency, and that it muſt depreciate? We alſo fear it will open a new ſource of ſpeculation, to the profit of the artful and the affluent, at the expence of the uninformed and neceſſitous—whom your Honorable Houſe, in diſtinguiſhing ſome of the ſame kind from the purchaſers of certificates, has been pleaſed to call "the *fooliſh* and the neceſſitous." Whether their weakneſs be accidental or natural, we deſire, that the protection of laws may be extended to them.

We ardently wiſh to ſave WIDOWS, ORPHANS, OFFICERS, SOLDIERS, and other WORTHY CITIZENS, who have contributed their property by placing it in the loan-office, or otherwiſe, to the uſe of their country, or who have ſerved her, and STILL HOLD their certificates, *from ſuch unequal conteſts* as have been juſt mentioned, and *from any poſſibility* that what their country pays to them ſhould again deceive them, by depreciating in their hands. Let THEIR caſe be ſeparated from that of dealers in certificates, and let THEM be truly paid in *ſpecie*. That this proviſion ſhould not be exceeded by this ſtate, at this time, and in the manner propoſed, is, in our judgment, recommended by honor, juſtice, humanity, policy, and a regard for the Confederation.

Should the paper to be emitted not anſwer all the ends of a medium of commerce, though receivable for any demands by the ſtate, it may yet have pernicious efficacy in expelling, for ſome time, large quantities of gold and ſilver from circulation. During that period, the difficulty of paying debts, and the diſappaintment of the benevolent purpoſes for which the paper was originally intended will be earneſtly diſplayed. Your ſucceſſors may urge, that the making it a legal tender is the only proviſion wanting to cure theſe diſorders—with what probability of ſucceſs, any perſon acquainted with public tranſactions can eaſily determine.

The iniquities of tender laws, and the evils of a paper currency, may, we hope, be avoided, if the funding plan is confined to the objects we wiſh to be comprehended. *For this purpoſe*, the arrearages of taxes and the impoſts may be ſufficient for ſeveral years. To turn all the gold and ſilver ariſing from the impoſt, &c. into paper, and to retax thoſe citizens who have paid their ſhares of former taxes, while ſuch large ſums are ſtill unpaid by others, and to make theſe extraordinary efforts, in order to pay an immenſe intereſt to the purchaſers of certificates, are meaſures that tend to the injury of the commonwealth, however profitable they may be to ſome individuals.

But it is objected, in the anſwer to our meſſage, that "the diſcrimination between *original holders* of certificates and *purchaſers* muſt be extremely difficult." Admitting the difficulty, yet it is ſurmountable. Such a "diſcrimination" may be made. It can be made, notwithſtanding all the obſtructions ſo ingeniouſly magnified by purchaſers of certificates, and their friends. It has actually been made, and in an inſtance quoted in the anſwer—"the appropriation of the exciſe, for the benefit of the army;" and accordingly, intereſt is now annually paid for near *two hundred thouſand* pounds, upon certificates *retained by the original holders* till the proviſion was made; ſo that MORE THAN ONE HALF of the depreciation certificates were by the ſaid diſcrimination excluded, becauſe they were alienated—and if they had not been excluded, the ORIGINAL HOLDERS could not have been paid, for the fund is little more than ſufficient to diſcharge THEIR intereſt. If the like diſtinction is not made now, *original holders* will find themſelves about as much relieved by the preſent funding plan, as *original holders* would have been without the diſtinction in the caſe mentioned. We are glad, that this inſtance was referred to. It is confeſſed in the anſwer, that "THE MOST UNEXCEPTIONABLE FUND is provided to ſupport theſe certificates of the army." Such it undoubtedly is. Yet, what is the conſequence? *Theſe* certificates, *thus* funded, ſell at the rate of thirty or or thirty-five pounds caſh for an hundred in certificates. Does not this fact prove how much more than "extremely difficult" it is, to "reſtore public credit" by the efforts of *one* of theſe ſtates?

But, whatever difficulty may occur in making the diſcrimination alluded to in our meſſage, that is, in limiting the proviſion to be made to the *original holders* of certificates, who, at the time of becoming creditors of *The United States*, were and ſtill continue citizens of *Pennſylvania*, now having their homes therein, and the executors and adminiſtrators of ſuch as are deceaſed ſince the debts were ſo contracted, and thoſe who hold them by donation for *benevolent* purpoſes, we are convinced, that the difficulty will be much greater in making the diſcrimination propoſed in the funding bill; and that, in executing that bill, if paſſed into a law, it will be IMPOSSIBLE to guard againſt abuſes and frauds.

Reverence for public ſtipulations compels us to make another reflexion on this "fund to ſupport the the certificates of the army." The *exciſe* is, and then was, payable in *gold and ſilver*. The public faith of this ſtate was ſolemnly given, with all the ſanctions of law, to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, that "the ſaid *appropriation* of the *exciſe* ſhould be and continue a *permanent* fund for the purpoſes aforeſaid;"—that is, the payment of the intereſt on their certificates, "*until* means ſhould be provided for the payment of the principal ſums ſpecified in ſaid certificates reſpectively." Yet—by the funding bill, the intereſt of theſe certificates is to be paid in *paper*.

The anſwer alſo objects to the manner in which we mentioned the acts of *March* 1783, and their ſupplements in the *September* following. Here ſeems to have been ſome miſtake of our meaning. We mentioned them to ſhew, that diſtinctions had beeen made by the legiſlature; and the funding bill itſelf makes diſtinctions.

There appears to have been another miſtake as to what we ſaid, concerning "buyers of certificates being led by general converſation upon the ſubject, and by the tenor of our laws, to contemplate the laying them out in purchaſing *lands*." The truth is ſo notorious, that we did really hope we might be excuſed for noticing it—for the purpoſe, not of revoking any engagement contracted with ſuch perſons by the commonwealth, but for the purpoſe of preventing an engagement being contracted with them, that might be attended with ſeveral perplexing embarraſſments. Beſides, this obſervation was ſtrengthened by being joined with "*the tenor of our laws.*" We alluded to the act, entitled, "*An act for the ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the* Pennſylvania *line, or their repreſentatives,*" &c. paſſed *March* 12, 1783, by which, the LANDS to be ſold were to "be paid for in gold or ſilver, or *in the certificates aforeſaid*"—and alſo to the act, entitled, "*An act for opening the land-office,*" &c. paſſed *April* 1, 1784, which enacts, that "all the aforeſaid certificates of depreciation, the certificates for monies loaned to *The United States* by citizens of this ſtate, or granted in the name of or for the uſe of ſuch citizens, and ſuch certificates as have been or may hereafter be granted to the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line, and all other depreciation certificates granted to officers and ſoldiers of this ſtate, and all certificates for commutation, and for arrearages of pay, and the certificates of the commiſſaries, quarter-maſters and forage-maſters, and alſo certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate from *The United States*, or from this ſtate, *ſhall be received in payment for the* LANDS *ſold.*

We know of no other fund eſtabliſhed, or intended till laſt ſeſſions, by this ſtate, in a ſeparate capacity, for paying the intereſt on the debts due by *The United States* to the citizens of this ſtate. Therefore it ſeems a fair "ſuppoſition," that the dealers in certificates, unleſs they were endued with a ſpirit of prophecy, or ſome intelligence almoſt as extraordinary, could not, in their traffic for them rely upon any other fund being eſtabliſhed by this ſtate.

Another paragraph in the anſwer is either erroneous, or may lead into errors in the conſtruction. It is ſaid, in mentioning the national debt, and the reſolutions of the 16th of *December*, 1782, "unfortunately no fund has been found by Congreſs to pay even the intereſt, or any part of it, from that time to the preſent." If the meaning of this clauſe is, that "no fund has been found by Congreſs" *different* from the mode fixed in the confederation, it is right: But, if the meaning is, that "the intereſt, or any part of it," has not been paid by contributions, upon requiſitions from Congreſs, *according to the confederation*, it is wrong.

As to the proviſion ſaid to be made in *New-Jerſey*, we are not informed of the particulars. The conduct of no ſtate can abrogate fœderal duties, or alter our ſentiments concerning the meaſures that may be proper for this commonwealth.

We have carefully conſidered the many quotations in the anſwer; and, we truſt, we have fully ſhewn, not only that they are very remote from any contradiction to the ſentiments expreſſed in our meſſage, but, that the meſſage ſtrictly and faithfully adheres to the principles and purpoſes held forth in thoſe quotations. With regard to the concluſion of "The Addreſs," &c. which your Honorable Houſe was pleaſed to "recommend" to our attention, we have endeavoured, but *find it impoſſible*, to believe—that an addreſs made by Congreſs "to the ſtates," expreſly to enforce, by "the moſt powerful conſiderations," as the anſwer obſerves, the eſtabliſhment of "An aſcertained fund—ſimple and productive in its nature—general in its principle—at the diſpoſal of a ſingle will—defined and eſtabliſhed on the faith of the ſtates, ſolemnly pledged to each other—and not revocable by any, without a breach of the general compact"—for theſe are the words of Congreſs—could be intended by that body, to promote ſuch a plan as is contained in the funding bill, which is directly oppoſed to their national, conſolidating views and deſigns.

With as little ſucceſs, we have tried to diſcover "the many miſtakes in fact, from which erroneous conſequences have been deduced in the meſſage," as the anſwer alledges. Could they have been diſcovered, they ſhould have been acknowledged. We are not only deeply ſenſible, how fallible we are, but alſo, how criminal we ſhould be, by perſiſting in errors that might injure *Pennſylvania.*

GENTLEMEN,

Our meſſage was, with unanimous conſent, intended "to offer what information we could upon affairs of much moment" to our country. This reply, with the like unanimity, purſues the ſame deſign, and could not be earlier, as your anſwer was not delivered to us till *four* days after your adjournment.

This mode we think as agreeable to the conſtitution and to practice, as that of *conferences.* Conſcious of the uprightneſs of our intentions, we are willing, that our conſtituents and the world ſhould be perfectly acquainted with the motives of our conduct; and, as we are freemen and have the honor to ſerve an Independent Sovereign People, we eſteem it our right, and our duty, to deliver our ſentiments upon ſubjects in which they are intereſted, in ſuch manner as we judge moſt likely to contribute to the advancement of their welfare.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, February 1, 1785.

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

AFTER our meſſage of yeſterday was agreed to, and nearly tranſcribed, we received a letter of the 21ſt of laſt month from the Preſident of Congreſs, which we now ſend, with the incloſures. The ſentiments contained in theſe communications ſo perfectly correſpond with thoſe delivered in that meſſage, and ſo remarkably ſupport the arguments therein uſed, that, we hope, they will give great weight to them, and immediately engage the *moſt ſerious* attention of your Honorable Houſe.

An opportunity is now offered, for this ſtate to acquire diſtinguiſhed reputation, and render an eſſential ſervice to the Union, which, we are certain, will be attended by very happy conſequences to the commonwealth.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, February 2, 1785.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read.

The letter from *John Oakly*, eſq. read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That it be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council to take order thereon.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Long* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee to examine the Minutes of the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs.

The petition of the Directors of the Library Company of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be* "*referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative,

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled "*An act to de-* "*clare the right of the Preſident and Council of this commonwealth, to appoint all* "*officers civil and military, except in the caſes reſerved by the conſtitution of* "*this ſtate, to the General Aſſembly and the people,*" poſtponed *December* 24, laſt, whereupon,

Ordered, That it be recommitted with the addition of Mr. *Whitehill.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 4, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Emanuel Carpenter*, eſq. elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, declining to take his ſeat as a member of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Thomas Morton, eſq. elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to examine the Minutes of the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation* "*of Pequea, in Saliſbury townſhip, Lancaſter county,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation, in* Abington *townſhip, in the county of Montgomery,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, dated the firſt day of February, inſtant, was read the ſecond time, and after ſome time ſpent in debating the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 5, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the frontier inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, ſetting forth their diſtreſſed ſituation, occaſioned by the late Indian war, was read, praying a longer time may be allowed them to warrant and patent their lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Iſaac Auſtin*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled,* "An act to veſt in *Iſaac* "*Auſtin*, a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry and ferry landing, ſituated on the "north ſide of *Mulberry* ſtreet, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the "city of *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of High "Treaſon, and to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned

" to *George Adam Baker*," and praying to be heard by his counſel at the bar of this Houſe, to ſhew cauſe wherefore the ſaid bill ought not to be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of divers citizens of the city and county of *Philadelphia*; read *November* 16, laſt, were read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Coats* and Mr. *M'Pherſon* to report thereon.

The meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *December* 21, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with its incloſures, to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Johnſon* and Mr. *Ritchie* to report thereon.

A letter from *John Dunlap*, and *David C. Claypoole*, was read, ſuggeſting the utility of publiſhing the minutes of the Houſe, in their daily paper, and praying to be allowed a reaſonable compenſation for the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, "*An act for the better regulation of the public ſquares, ſtreets, lanes, alleys, ſtairs, wharfs, common-ſewers, and water-courſes in the city of* Philadelphia, *and diſtricts of the* Northern Liberties, *and* Southwark, *and for ſupplying ſeveral deficiencies in the laws heretofore made for that purpoſe; and for the regulation of the private buildings wharfs, lots, and fences in ſaid city and diſtricts; and to declare divers new ſtreets opened and to be opened and laid out within the ſaid city and diſtricts to be highways; and alſo, to declare nuiſances, by buildings within the ſtreets of ſaid city removable; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to grant to* Arthur Donaldſon, *his executors, adminiſtrators and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and uſing in the river* Delaware, *a machine called* Hippopotamos, *by him invented, for the cleanſing of docks, and raiſing ſand, gravel, dirt and other things from the bed of the river*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *congregation of* Pequea, *in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *and county of* Lancaſter," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, February 7, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the firſt day of February inſtant; whereupon,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Finley*, and Mr. *Smiley*, to report thereon.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the ſecond day of February inſtant, was read the ſecond time, together with the incloſures therein referred to.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Loller*, and Mr. *J. Craig*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for electing two delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, in the room of *Cadwalader Morris*, and *William Montgomery*, eſquires, who have reſigned; and that the nomination continue until that day.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *December* 4 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Watts*, and Mr. *Ritchie*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Long*, and Mr. *M'Conaughy*, be a committee to reviſe the act of Aſſembly, entitled, "*An act for the ſupport of government, and the adminiſtration of juſtice*," paſſed the twenty ſeventh day of *December*, 1781, and to report a bill if they deem it neceſſary.

The committee appointed *December* 8 laſt, on the petition of *Hannah Nevil*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to enable the courts of Quarter Seſſions of the ſeve-* “ *ral counties of this commonwealth, to vacate roads and highways, in proper* “ *caſes*;" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*An act to grant to* Arthur Donaldſon, *his executors, adminiſtrators, and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and uſing, in the river* “ Delaware, *a machine called* Hippopotamos, *by him invented, for the cleanſing* “ *of docks, and raiſing ſand, gravel, dirt, and other things from the bed of the* “ *river*;" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 8, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, was read, praying a road may be laid out from the *Water Gap*, on the river *Lehigh*, to *Wyoming*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Whitehead Humphreys*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was the firſt who diſcovered the true method of converting bar-iron into ſteel, in *America*, and hath brought the ſame to ſuch perfection, as to be equal, in the opinion of approved judges, if not ſuperior, to any ſteel imported from *England*; alſo, that he hath brought to perfection the art of making ſteel-plate mill-ſaws; therefore praying the ſame countenance and encouragement may be afforded to his ſucceſsful labours, as is uſually practiſed in countries noted for their wiſe regulations, in the giving ſuch preference to their home manufactures, as may tend to promote the exertions of induſtry and ingenuity.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Robinſon*, collector of the public taxes in *Colerain* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that on the night of the 11th of *December* laſt, he was robbed of a conſiderable ſum of public money, by divers armed perſons; and praying this Houſe to direct the ſame to be carried to the credit of his account upon a final ſettlement thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *December* 22, laſt, was read the ſecond time

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

The letter from *John Dunlap* and *David C. Claypoole*, read *February* 5, inſtant was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Grubb*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *R. Brown*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Loller* to report thereon.

The petition of *Iſaac Auſtin*, read February 5, was read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion " *Shall the prayer thereof be granted*,"

It was carried in the negative,

The bill entitled, " *An act for erecting South Dock, being part of Dock* " *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward*," was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " *An act to alter and confirm the charter of the corporation* " *for the relief of the widows and children of clergymen in communion of the* " *Church of* England *in* America," was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " *A further ſupplement to the act entitled*, " An act for " raiſing county rates and levies," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, " *A ſupplememt to the act entitled* " An act for regulat- " ing, pitching, paving and cleanſing the high ways, ſtreets, lanes and al- " leys, and for regulating, making and amending the water courſes and com- " mon ſewers, within the inhabited and ſettled parts of the city of *Philadel-* " *phia*, for raiſing of money to defray the expences thereof, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act to in-* " *corporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* Abington *townſhip, in the county of* " Montgomery," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " *An act to enable the courts of Quarter Seſſions of the ſe-* " *veral counties of this commonwealth, to vacate roads and high ways in proper* " *caſes*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law and the ſpeaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 9, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

George Woods, eſq. elected a repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, appearing in the houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Cheſnut Level*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from ſundry perſons owners of a houſe and lot in the city of *Philadelphia*, called the Free Maſons lodge; was read, ſetting forth that in the year 1754 a number of perſons members of the then grand and firſt lodges of Free Maſons in the city of *Philadelphia*, purchaſed upon ground rent a lot of ground ſituate in *Lodge Alley*, in the ſaid city, and erected thereon a building for the accommodation of the ſaid Lodges, at their periodical meetings. That the title to the ſaid lot was veſted by deed in *William Plumſted*, *Thomas Bond*, *Hugh Davey*, *Edward Shippen*, *Samuel Mifflin*, *John Swift*, *Daniel Roberdeau*, *John Wallace and William Franklin*, in joint tenancy in fee: and although no truſt was mentioned in the ſaid deed, yet it appears from the minutes of the ſaid firſt lodge, that the ſaid lot was really held under the following truſts, *viz.* Firſt to pay out of the rents and profits of the houſe to be built thereon, to the ſeveral ſubſcribers, the ſums of money by them advanced for building the ſame, and then to apply the ſaid rents and profits, as they ſhould ariſe, in the following manner, to wit, two thirds thereof to the ſaid ſubſcribers in proportion to the ſums by them paid and the remaining one third to the uſe of the ſaid firſt Lodge.

That by the original agreement of all perſons concerned, as appears by the ſaid minutes, it was provided, that as the ſaid ſubſcribers ſhould reſpectively die, or remove out of the then province with a deſign to ſettle in another place, the ſhares of thoſe ſo dying or removing, ſhould devolve on the remaining ſubſcribers, ſaving to them and their heirs the right of diſpoſing of their ſaid ſhares to any of the members of the ſaid firſt or grand Lodges, if done within one year after their deaths or removal as aforeſaid.

That from the great length of time ſince elapſed, a conſiderable number of the ſaid ſubſcribers are dead, and the ſurvivors are now ſo few in number, that the ſaid building is now no longer neceſſary for their accommodation, for the purpoſes originally intended, and they are willing and deſirous to ſell the ſame, but are adviſed that the truſtees are not empowered ſo to do, without the aid of the legiſlature; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill to enable the ſaid truſtees or ſuch of them as have ſurvived, and now reſide in this ſtate, to ſell the houſe and lot for the benefit of the ſaid remaining owners as to two thirds of the produce thereof, and as to the remaining one third to the uſe of the ſaid firſt Lodge, to be applied to ſuch charitable purpoſes as they may think proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petitition from *Jacob Kintzer*, collector of public taxes in *Huntington* townſhip in the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth that on the 25th day of *March*, 1783, he was robbed of divers ſums of public money by him collected, in payment of taxes, and praying this Houſe to direct the ſame to be carried to the credit of his account upon a final ſettlement thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petion from *John Byers*, of the town of *Sunbury*, in the county of *Northumberland*, eſquire, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, inveſting him with the excluſive right of keeping and maintaining a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna*, at the town of *Sunbury* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Scotland*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation of his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him, in lieu of that which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Woods*

Ordered, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *J. Thomas*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee to reviſe the laws of this commonwealth, reſpecting the unappropriated lands within this ſtate, and to report a bill thereon if they deem it neceſſary.

A letter from *Matthew Clarkſon*, and *Ebenezer Hazard*, adminiſtrators of the eſtate of *Pierre Eugene* du *Simitiere*, deceaſed, was read, offering the pre-emption, of the ſaid *Simitiere*'s *American Muſeum* to this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to ſue for and* "*recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to them in* "*this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to regulate the appointment of delegates to ſerve in Congreſs*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 7 laſt, to examine the State Houſe, and report an eſtimate of the repairs neceſſary to be done; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to authoriſe and direct the immediate payment of* "*the ſum of fifteen thouſand pounds, ſterling, to the deviſees and legatees of* Tho- "mas Penn, *and* Richard Penn, *and to the widow and relict of the ſaid* Tho- "mas Penn, *being the firſt yearly payment, directed to be paid to them by an act* "*of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entitled,* "An act for veſting the eſtate of "the late proprietaries of *Pennſylvania*, in the commonwealth; was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An act to alter and confirm the charter of the corporation for the relief of the widows and childern of clergymen in communion of the church of England, *in* America.

An act for erecting South Dock *ward, being part of* Dock *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward.*

A ſupplement to the act entitled, "An act for regulating, pitching, paving, "and cleanſing the highways, ſtreets, lanes, and alleys; and for regulating, "making, and amending the water courſes and common ſewers within the "inhabited and ſettld parts of the city of *Philadelphia*; for raiſing of money "to defray the expences thereof, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

A meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE ſecretary will lay before you, letters, from the preſident of Congreſs of the 24th of *December*, and a proclamation and reſolutions of that Honorable Body of the 2d inſtant; from the governor of *Connecticut* of the 20th of that month; from our delegates of the 19th and 27th of *January*; and from the commiſſioners for *Indian* affairs of the 11th of *December*; with ſeveral incloſures, and a number of depoſitions concerning the expulſion of many *Pennſylvanians* from their dwellings and poſſeſſions at and near *Wyoming*, and other outrages committed againſt them by perſons not claiming under this ſtate.

Among the many objects deſerving the attention of your Honorable Houſe, one of the moſt important, in our judgment, is the eſtabliſhment of an improved ſyſtem of revenue, founded on juſt and therefore ſalutary principles, digeſted in the cleareſt order, governed by the moſt œconomical arrangement, and wherein matters of a ſimilar nature, with all the neceſſary proviſions relating to them, ſhall be claſſed together in the ſame law; ſo that the ſeveral parts being duly combined, all monies levied upon the citizens by public authority, may paſs through as few hands as poſſible, without deceit or delay, into the treaſury.

By the act for eſtabliſhing the Comptroller General's office, he is directed “ *to keep accounts of the revenues and expenditures of the commonwealth of every* “ *kind*,” and “ *to call perſons to account for monies belonging to the ſtate, except* “ *the collectors of taxes and the treaſurers of counties.*”

This exception tends to introduce confuſion and remiſſneſs, and militates againſt the principal deſign of the act. The Comptroller General ought, we apprehend, to be furniſhed by the reſpective commiſſioners, with duplicates of aſſeſſments for every county immediately after they are made, particulariſing not only the taxes to be collected thereon, but alſo, thoſe outſtanding on former aſſeſſments—the kind of money in which they are payable—the names and ſirnames of the perſons aſſeſſed—the townſhips in which they reſide—the names and ſirnames of the collectors, and for what diſtricts they are appointed—and returns of all abatements or exonerations. If there are, afterwards, any new appointments of treaſurers or collectors, they, together with accounts of fines incurred by neglect or refuſal to perform the duties requeſted by law, ſhould be forthwith notified, by the ſeveral commiſſioners, to the Comptroller General. He will then be enabled to call the treaſurers to account; and if they and the collectors are properly enjoyned to give receipts truly dated for taxes paid; never to retain more than certain moderate ſums in their hands at any one time; and in their accounts rendered to aſcertain the day when every ſum was received and paid, many miſchiefs would be prevented. The treaſurers ſhould be empowered to compel collectors to a performance of their duty. The Comptroller General ſhould be bound, always to report to Council the names of the delinquent officers; and in or about the month of *December*, in every year, to publiſh and diſtribute through the counties, the accounts of every county treaſurer, ſpecifying, in the order of townſhips, the names and ſirnames of the perſons who have paid their taxes—the ſums paid—the kind of money—the times when—and the officers to whom; and alſo, a liſt of thoſe who have not paid, and of the ſums due by them.

To theſe ſhould be added, an annual publication of the expenditures, with as extenſive an enumeration of particulars, as may be conveniently practicable. By this mode, the taxes may be eaſily and exactly traced from the private purſes of the citizens who pay them, into the public purſe of the treaſury; deficiencies be readily diſcovered; and frauds and neglects be quickly diſcloſed. Thus, every freeman will have the ſatisfaction of *knowing*, that what he contributed, has been applied to the general welfare in which his own is involved, and that any abuſes, in diverting it from that end, cannot eſcape detection and puniſhment. It will alſo be an encouragement to him to pay his taxes cheerfully, when he perceives that they are ſo well guarded, ſo faithfully diſpoſed of, and ſo ſtrictly accounted for *to him*. Reaſon and experience demonſtrate, that it is the undoubted right and intereſt of a free people, to be as fully informed of the adminiſtration of public affairs, as circumſtances will poſſibly admit; and it is evidently the duty of their ſervants, to uſe every exertion that they may be thus informed.

We are much pleaſed, after a careful examination, to find, that the expences of the publications neceſſary for attaining the before mentioned advantages, when compared with the benefits to be derived from them, are too inconſiderable to be regarded.

By an act paſſed on the *twenty-ſecond* of *November*, 1782, juſtices of the peace are, in ſome caſes, veſted with a power to collect the impoſt on goods, wares, and merchandizes. This ſeems to be an improper diſtribution of power, the difficulty of having the duties accounted for, being ſo very great.

We ſhould deem ourſelves guilty of an unpardonable offence againſt the citizens of this commonwealth, if we ſhould forbear to call before the notice of your honorable Houſe, and warmly to requeſt the interpoſition of your authority, upon another matter relating to taxation. A practice has prevailed ſince the revolution, as we are informed, for the perſons concerned in making aſſeſſments, to add to the tax required by law, and to lay large ſums upon the inhabitants, to compenſate for deficiencies. We believe the intentions of theſe perſons, in acting thus, have been honeſt; but, we are of opinion, that ſuch proceedings are inconſiſtent with good government, and are dangerous examples. The repreſentatives in Aſſembly, are, in the impoſition of taxes, to eſtimate every circumſtance that can diminiſh them, and upon conſideration of contingencies, to fix upon ſuch a ſum, that the neat proceeds brought into the treaſury, will anſwer the end propoſed by the tax.

The expences of every ſtate tax are very conſiderable, and by law are to be "drawn from the county treaſuries." If this mode is not altered, we apprehend, that, at leaſt, the accounts upon which ſuch draughts are made, ſhould be exhibited to the county treaſurers, and by them, in their ſettlements, to the Comptroller General, ſo that the whole expence of the ſtate incurred by ſuch taxes, and the manner of expenditures, may be brought into public view; and by a compariſon of proceedings in the ſeveral counties, a regularity may be eſtabliſhed that will be leaſt expenſive.

For further obſervations on the revenue, and other matters of much conſequence to the welfare of the ſtate, we beg leave to refer to ſome of our former meſſages.

In executing the offices with which we have been honored by our country, we have judged ourſelves bound to make many diligent enquiries, that thereby we might be better enabled to diſcharge the truſt repoſed in us. From theſe we are induced to entertain a lively hope, that if induſtry, frugality, deliberation, and caution are exerted, in regulating and managing the finances of this ſtate, they may be placed upon ſuch a footing, that every demand for which honor or juſtice requires a proviſion, may be ſatisfied in ſuch manner,

that,

that, under the favor of *Providence*, the people may be happy, and valuable ſtrangers not be diſcouraged, by the confuſions of our currency, or the burthens of our taxes, from fixing their reſidence in *Pennſylvania*.

By the *forty-ſecond* ſection of the conſtitution, " Every foreigner of good character who comes to ſettle in this ſtate, having firſt taken an oath or affirmation of allegiance, may purchaſe lands ; after a reſidence of one year, becomes a free denizen ; and in two years, is capable of being elected a repreſentative."

As no mode is directed for determining whether a " Foreigner is of good character," many unworthy perſons, " not having a ſufficient evident common intereſt with, and attachment to the community," to uſe the words of the " *declaration* of *rights*," acquire all the privileges of citizenſhip. We ſhall receive great ſatisfaction, if your honorable Houſe ſhall agree with us in opinion, that the foregoing ſection ſhould be enforced by the eſtabliſhment of ſome authority *to decide*, what foreigners are comprehended in the preceeding expreſſions, ſo as to be properly entitled to " *The rights of natural born citizens of this ſtate*," and ſhall be pleaſed to make proviſion accordingly.

We have had occaſion to obſerve, that the laws relating to marriage, the office of ſheriffs, the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality, and the election of juſtices of the peace, require ſeveral amendments. A ſpecification of them is contained in the paper that will be herewith delivered. Beſides thoſe, there is a variety of caſes that cannot with propriety be enumerated in a meſſage, in which improvements may be made in the laws. To explain our meaning, we were therefore obliged, during the laſt ſeſſions, to arrange a number of them in the form of a bill. As they are deſigned to prevent unneceſſary delays and expences in legal proceedings, remove doubts, promote uniformity, eſtabliſh deciſions according to ſubſtantial juſtice, upon the truth of facts, and the merits of every cauſe, and farther to ſecure the peace and rights of our fellow citizens, and advance their welfare, we very earneſtly wiſh the ſubject may engage the conſideration of your Honorable Houſe.

The regulation of priſons ſeems to be a care peculiarly becoming a free people. The ſlighteſt portion of affliction needleſſly *added* to that which reſults from reſtraint of liberty, is an offence committed by the ſtate: But, that places of legal confinement ſhould be ſo contrived as to produce diſeaſe, or become ſcenes of impurity and oppreſſion, and ſchools of vice, muſt be deplorable and reproachful in the extreme. To guard againſt effects ſo inconſiſtent with policy, humanity and religion, every information ſhould be ſought for, and and every effort employed. To contribute as much as we can to ſuch deſirable purpoſes, we incloſe heads of all thoſe regulations that, in our apprehenſion, may be uſeful in deliberations of this kind.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, February 9, 1785.

The following was endorſed as part of the above meſſage.

Defects in the Law for ſuppreſſing Vice and Immorality.

Gaming, except in or near public houſes, is not ſufficiently provided againſt—cock-fighting, Bull-baiting, and other methods of drawing multitudes together for ſome public diverſion, are not prohibited with proper extent and exactneſs.

Defects in the Law for electing Juſtices of the Peace.

The Juſtice ſhould mention, in his precept, the names and firnames of the freeholders who apply to him for an election—he ſhould mention the diſtrict, and the townſhip or townſhips of which it conſiſts—the cauſe of the vacancy, and the name and firname of the juſtice laſt commiſſioned for the diſtrict.

It ſhould be determined by law, in what diſtrict a freeholder is to vote, who holds land in one, and reſides in another—who are freeholders qualified to to vote, diſputes frequently ariſing concerning holders by warrants, or ſurvey, mortgages, deeds made a ſhort time before elections, and where the feoffees *have never been in poſſeſſion*—the return ſhould mention the number of votes for each of the candidates—the payment of expences in conteſted elections ſhould be provided for by law—On neglect or refuſal of conſtables, overſeers, inſpectors or aſſiſtants, to proceed to another election, where the firſt has been legally declared void, and due proceſs iſſued thereon, penalties ſhould be inflicted—Power ſhould be veſted in Council, to order the examination of ſuch witneſſes, in diſputed elections, as they may judge proper, and to devide diſtricts in the interior counties—It ſhould be ſettled by law, whether a county town incorporated has a right to chuſe ſix juſtices of the peace elect to be returned for the appointment of three by council, beſides the burgeſſes thereof under the incorporation.

The clerk of the peace ſhould certify, that the diſtrict mentioned in the precept and return, conſiſts of the townſhip or townſhips therein mentioned, as compoſing the diſtrict, and of no more; and that there is ſuch a vacancy as is mentioned in the precept.

The Defects in the Laws concerning the Office of Sheriffs, are—

That there is no power to direct a new election, where the election of ſheriffs has been irregular—There is the ſame defect as to the election of commiſſioners.

The ſureties of ſheriffs ſhould be liable for the whole time that the perſon commiſſioned as ſheriff may hold that office, within the next three years.

Sheriffs and their ſureties ſhould give bond in larger ſums.

Under ſheriffs and bailiffs ſhould be prohibited from being elected ſheriffs, in ſuch explicit terms that the laws may not be eluded.

Defects in the Laws relating to Marriage.

Licences ſhould be ſo regulated, as not to admit of abuſes in countenancing improper marriages—The bond to be given ſhould be directed in form by law, and ſhould be accommodated to circumſtances—Divorces and alimony, ſhould be provided for.

A draft of a bill was delivered to Meſſieurs *Clark*, *Clymer*, and *M'Conaughy*, on this ſubject.

Heads of Regulations for Priſons.

Security—Situation, high, dry, fronting towards the ſouth, or from ſouth to ſouth ſouth weſt, contrivance of the building, lodging up ſtairs or over arcades, clothes of two colours, turn-ſtiles and low gates, alarm bell, double doors, one iron latticed, high wall ſurrounding, number and diſpoſition of turn-keys, military guard if neceſſary, gaoler's windows looking on the yard, collar, ring, or ſomewhat of that kind to be worn for diſcovery on eſcapes, times of opening and ſhutting up to be ſtrictly obſerved, admiſſion of relations or friends, caution in admitting viſiters, only to be admitted at certain times, not many at once, to be ſearched for tools, ſpirituous liquors, &c.—Separation by day and night of women from men, of debtors from criminals, of petty offenders from abandoned criminals.

Health.—Freſh and ſweet air, windows with ſaſhes to open, for a thorough draught of air, priſoners made to go out and air themſelves at proper times, privies properly ſituated, the ſewers ſpacious

Cleanlineſs.—1. The priſoners perſons, uſe of baths at admiſſion and other times, to waſh before meals, water in the courts and wards, towels, ſinks, &c. in proper places, heads ſhaved, encouragements to be moſt cleanly.

2. Their clothes, linen clean, how often, other clothes, bedding, beds brought out and beat.

3. The houſe, waſhing and ſweeping of cells, work rooms, ſtair caſes, galleries, &c. ſewers, drains, yards, plenty of water, waſte water through the privies, ſcraping the walls, whitewaſhed with lime twice a year, no ſtable, hogſtie, dunghill, fowl yard or houſe near.

Diet.—Proviſions, quantity and quality, proportioned to work, difference in ſummer and winter, hot proviſions daily, breakfaſt, dinner, ſupper, what; manner of dividing and ſharing, hours of meals, allowance in weight, inſpectors of proviſion, houſe weights, liquor what, meaſure of, priſoners allowed to purchaſe, what, and when.

Cloathing.—A priſon uniform, materials, colour, &c. linen provided, ſtockings, ſhoes, &c.

Lodging.—Separate cell for each priſoner, linen and bedding, what difference in ſummer and winter, upon barrack beds, or iron, or wooden bedſteads, flues or ſtoves to warm the cells in winter, time allotted for ſleep.

Firing.—Fuel, what kind and quantity, when and how long, fires, where to be made, ſtoves, flues, &c.

Religious inſtruction and morals.—Miniſters of different perſuaſions allowed to viſit, private admonitions to young offenders, catechiſing, apartment for worſhip, manner of placing the priſoners in, perſons to overlook their behaviour, reward and puniſhment for behaviour at, viſitors diſmiſſed at ſervice time, priſoners reading chapters or prayers, bibles, books provided, no gaming or drinking.

Employment.—Proportioned to ſtrength, and to degree of criminality, hours of, kinds of, within doors or without doors, number of working together, taſks, mere labour, or manufacturers requiring ingenuity, the labour of each diſtinguiſhable from that of another, working at their own trades, clothing, &c. of the houſe made by priſoners, waſhing, baking, proportion of profit to be allowed to priſoners. Wholeſomneſs of an employment, ready ſale of manufacture, conveyance of raw materials and manufactures, tools required, not dangerous ones, returned at night.

Rewards.—Shortening term of confinment, work lighter or more agreeable, order of being ſerved at meals, better proviſion, degreee of liberty allowed, cells more convenient, profit of work, diſtribution of charity, advance into a higher claſs, money given at diſcharge, a character at diſcharge.

Puniſhments.—Abridgment of diet, or coarſer kind, hard or diſagreeable work, marks of diſgrace, wearing collar, &c. ſtripes, term lengthened on attempts to eſcape, ſhutting up the refractory in ſtrong rooms, ſolitary confinement and work.

Treatment of Sick.—An infirmary, medical attendance, medicines, freer allowance of diet, wine, bark, &c. clean linen, freſh air, nurſes, number of, precautions againſt infection, fumigation, clothes expoſed to fire, in an oven or buried, room for convaleſcents, gradual return to uſual diet and labour.

Proceedings on death of priſoners.—Coroner, jury how compoſed, funeral, without the precincts, how attended, expence allowed for.

Government of Priſon.—Magiſtrates, to viſit at proper periods, without previous notice, to ſee and examine all priſoners ſeparately, to fix rewards or puniſhments, a room for in the priſon.

Inſpectors.—By whom appointed, their duty, time of continuance in office, how often to viſit, at unexpected times, to view the whole priſon and hear priſoners complaints, to examine and weigh proviſions, to enquire into the conduct of priſoners and repreſent proper objects for favour, attendance at the apartment for worſhip, no ſalary, but ſome honorary diſtinctions.

Gaoler.—His duty, inſpection of, complaints againſt admitted, obliged to conſtant reſidence, allowed no profit in proviſions, liquor, &c. ſalary of, manner of chuſing him, no rent or taxes to pay, no fees, or private emoluments from priſoners, no garniſh to be allowed.

Matron.—Salary of, duty.

Turnkeys.—Number of, by whom appointed, ſalary, their office.

Manufacturers.—Salary of, duty.

Taſkmaſter.—Salary of, duty.

Regulations made known.—Tables hung up painted on boards, of the duty of officers, of keepers, of priſoners, of hours of opening and ſhutting, of work, of behaviour of priſoners to keeper, &c. of rewards and puniſhments, of attendence on divine ſervice, of diet, where hung, how made known, painted on boards, printed and given to each priſoner, to be read at certain times, by keeper.

Chiefly extracted from the excellent work of JOHN HOWARD, eſq. entitled "The State of the Priſons," &c.

See 14 Geo. III. ch. 43.
16 Geo. III. ch. 43.
19 Geo. III. ch. 74.

And part of the papers therein referred to were alſo read, whereupon

Ordered, That the further reading of the ſaid papers be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the further reading of the papers referred to, in the meſſage of this morning, whereupon

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 10, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Benjamin Wallace*, was read, praying to be appointed regiſter of wills, and granting letters of adminiſtration, and recorder of deeds, in and for that part of the county of *Lancaſter*, intended to be erected into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Abner Cloud*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act granting to* James Rumſey, *an excluſive right, for a certain* "*term of years, to navigate and build boats, calculated to work with greater* "*eaſe and facility againſt rapid rivers*;" and ſtating that he hath, long ſince, diſcovered the art of conſtructing ſuch boats, therefore praying he may be entitled to and receive ſuch bounty and privileges from this ſtate, as are applied for and expected by the ſaid *Rumſey*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of ſundry perſons, owners of a houſe and lot in the city of *Philadelphia*, called the Free Maſon's Lodge; read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the city members to report thereon.

The petition of *Alexander M'Clean*, read *December* 24 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *A. Smith*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Pettit*,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for electing two delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

A petition from *William Tharp*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *March* 22d laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* " An act " to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry, and ferry-landing, " ſituate on the north ſide of *Mulberry Street*, at the eaſternmoſt extremity " thereof, in the city of *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, " attainted of high treaſon;" *and to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate there-* " *in mentioned, to* George Adam Baker;" was read the third time; whereupon

On motion made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Humphreys*.

Ordered, That *Saturday* next, be aſſigned for debating the ſame by paragraphs.

A motion was made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Humphreys*, as follows, *viz.*

" Reſolved, *That the clerk furniſh each member of this Houſe (who hath not* " *already been ſupplied) with one copy of the bound laws and minutes of the legiſ-* " *lature of this commonwealth.*"

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *Wayne*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *James Vanſant*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *John Keller*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *Richard Willing*,
11. *Anthony Wayne*,
12. *Edward Jones*,
13. *Robert Ralſton*,
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
15. *Percifor Frazer*,
16. *Charles Humphreys*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *Robert Craig*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
22. *Robert M'Pherſon*,

YEAS.

23. *Henry Miller*,
24. *John Hay*,
25. *Philip Gartner*,
26. *James Ewing*,
27. *David M'Conaughy*,
28. *Henry Tyſon*,
29. *Joſeph Lilly*,
30. *William Brown*,
31. *David Davis*,
32. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
33. *Peter Burkhalter*,
34. *Robert Brown*,
35. *George Woods*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,
37. *William Todd*,
38. *Thomas Morton*,
39. *Matthew Ritchie*,
40. *James M'Calmont*,
41. *Peter Richards.*
42. *Robert Loller*,
43. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Joſeph Thomas,*
3. *James Mercer,*
4. *John Craig,*
5. *James Porter,*
6. *John Harris,*
7. *Robert Whitehill,*
8. *Nicholas Lutz,*
9. *Abraham Lincoln,*

NAYS.

10. *Henry Spyker,*
11. *Jonas Hartzel,*
12. *John Ralſton,*
13. *Frederick Antes,*
14. *William Finley,*
15. *John Smiley,*
16. *James Johnſton.*
17. *Abraham Smith,*
18. *George Smith.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution adopted.

The bill entitled " *An act to authoriſe and direct the immediate payment of* " *the ſum of fifteen thouſand pounds ſterling, to the deviſees and legatees of Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, and to the widow and relict of the ſaid Thomas* " *Penn, being the firſt yearly payment directed to be paid to them by an act of* " *Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entitled,* " An act for veſting the eſtate of " the late Proprietaries of *Pennſylvania,* in the commonwealth," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 11, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was read as follows, *viz.*

PHILADELPHIA, *February* 10*th,* 1785.

SIR,

I BEG leave to remind you of the ſubjects we converſed upon laſt night, the appointment of delegates, and the determination of the Aſſembly, reſpecting the diſpoſal of the Old Priſon, Work Houſe, and Lot.

It is the wiſh of Council, that the Houſe would reviſe the act paſſed in 1705, for bailing of priſoners, &c. as the allowance for priſoners therein mentioned ſtill continues, and from the increaſed price of bread, is certainly inſufficient.

The ſheriff of *Montgomery* county has repreſented, that there is no priſon yet built in that county, and therefore requeſts, that he may be permitted to ſecure his priſoners in the goal of this city and county. It is the deſire of Council, that proviſion ſhall be made accordingly by the legiſlature.

I am Sir, with much eſteem,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The Honorable the Speaker.

And on motion and by ſpecial order; the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Montgomery* county to report thereon.

A petition from *William M'Elhatton,* late a captain in the 12th *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying this Houſe to direct ſome mode whereby he may receive his half pay and ſubſiſtence money quarterly, that he may thereby be the better enabled to ſupport himſelf and family.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Martha M'Kinley*, was read, ſetting forth that in the year 1777, a certain *David Stedman*, an enſign in the ſtate regiment, came to her houſe, took the ſmall pox and continued there 21 days, when he died, and was decently buried at her expence, for which ſhe hath not received an adequate compenſation, therefore praying relief in the premiſes from this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Hugh Cunningham*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath conſtructed a boat or machine to work againſt the currents of rapid rivers, acroſs the ſame, or even in dead water, and praying a gratuity or bounty for his diſcovery may be granted him in ſuch manner as this Houſe ſhall judge moſt proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the petition of ſundry owners of a Houſe and Lot, in the city of Philadelphia, called the Free Maſon's Lodge; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the better ſecuring perſonal liberty, and preventing wrongful impriſonments,*" was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A memorial from *John Wilcox*, was read, ſetting forth, that in *June*, 1783, he imported a conſiderable quantity of wine, and from the nature of the impoſt laws, was compelled to enter his whole cargo, although at that time determined to reſhip the greater part of it, which he ſhortly after did; that for want of a drawback on exports he is ſubject to a duty, without the benefit of a ſale, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, read *February* 5, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed to reviſe the laws of this commonwealth, reſpecting the unappropriated lands within this ſtate.

Adjourned until half after nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 12, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Hugh Cunningham*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Ewing*, Mr. *G. Smith* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Abner Cloud*, read *February* 10, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

A letter from the delegates of this ſtate was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate was read, ſetting forth, that the roads from the eaſt ſide of the North Mountain to the weſt ſide of the Cheſnut, weſtward of Ligonier, being more than one hundred miles in length, are laid out over a mountainous country, and the inhabitants few in number and altogether unable to open a good road over theſe mountains, therefore praying a law may be paſſed for opening a road over the ſaid mountains at the expence of the ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petition of ſundry owners of a Houſe and Lot in the city of *Philadelpha*, called the Free Maſon's Lodge; was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

The committee appointed *February* 8, on the letter from *John Dunlap* and *David C. Claypoole*, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Woods* be a committee to draught a ſet of inſtructions and report the neceſſary ſupplies to the commiſſioners appointed "*to examine the navigation of the Suſquehanna to the ſources of the ſame, and aſcertain as near as conveniently may be, where the northern boundary of this ſtate will fall, particularly whether any part of* Lake Erie *is within the ſtate of* Pennſylvania, *taking particular notes of the nature and geography of the country, as to the practicability of roads, water carriage, air, ſoil, natural productions, &c.*"

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled,* "An act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry and ferry landing, ſituate on the north ſide of *Mulberry-ſtreet*, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the city of *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of high treaſon," *and to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned to* George Adam Baker," and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the act aforeſaid, and every matter and thing therein contained, ſhall be and the ſame is hereby, to all intents and purpoſes, repealed and made null and void."

On the queſtion "*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid clauſe,*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Ewing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *Thomas Long,*
10. *John Clark,*
11. *Joſeph Thomas,*
12. *John Keller,*
13. *Arthur Erwin,*
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
15. *Perſifor Frazer,*
16. *James Mercer,*
17. *John Craig,*
18. *Adam Orth,*
19. *James Porter,*
20. *William Stoey,*
21. *David Jenkins,*
22. *Robert Craig,*
23. *Robert Clark,*
24. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
25. *David M'Conaughy,*

YEAS.

26. *Frederick Watts,*
27. *John Harris,*
28. *William Brown,*
29. *Robert Whitehill,*
30. *Nicholas Lutz,*
31. *Abraham Lincoln,*
32. *Chriſtian Lower,*
33. *Henry Spyker,*
34. *David Davis,*
35. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
36. *Peter Burkhalter,*
37. *Robert Brown,*
38. *John Ralſton,*
39. *Frederick Antes,*
40. *Daniel Montgomery,*
41. *Samuel Dale,*
42. *William Finley,*
43. *William Todd,*
44. *Thomas Morton,*
45. *John Smiley,*
46. *James Johnſton,*
47. *Abraham Smith,*
48. *James M'Calmont,*
49. *Robert Loller,*
50. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
6. *Henry Miller*,
7. *John Hay*,
8. *Philip Gartner*,

NAYS.

9. *James Ewing*,
10. *Henry Tyſon*,
11. *Joſeph Lilly*,
12. *George Woods*,
13. *Robert Cluggage*.
14. *Matthew Ritchie*,
15. *Peter Richards*,

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe agreed to.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *February* 14, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, and that the courts of juſtice may be held at *Spring-Creek*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, were read, praying, in caſe a diviſion of the ſaid county takes place, that the courts of juſtice, of the new county, may be held at *Hummels-Town*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, were read, praying, in caſe a diviſion of the ſaid county takes place, that the courts of juſtice, of the new county, may be held at *Middletown*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the town of *Lebanon*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, referring to their former petitions and praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, and that the courts of juſtice may be held at the town aforeſaid, or grant and allow the inhabitants to decide their different ſentiments by an election, or a majority of votes or voices of the inhabitants of the new intended county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Byers*, read *February* 9, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Montgomery* to report thereon.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was read, as follows, *viz*.

SIR,

Council has received this day the incloſed letter from our delegates; and judges it proper, that it ſhould be immediately communicated to your honorable Houſe.

I am, with the higheſt eſteem,
Sir, your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

February 12*th*, 1785. *The honorable the Speaker.*

And the incloſure was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from ſundry of the farmers of the townſhip of *Briſtol*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, complaining of the taxes being burthenſome, and recommending that a ſtrict œconomy may take place in every department of the ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Norton*, was read, referring to his memorial, read in the late Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 23 laſt, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the treaſurer of the ſtate, was read, ſtating that in purſuance of the act directing certain notes to be iſſued by him, for paying one years intereſt on Loan Office and other certificates, one hundred and forty two thouſand dollars, in ſaid notes, have been paid into the treaſury, which are pierced and ready to be deſtroyed as this Houſe ſhall direct.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, was read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

I have the directions of Council to tranſmit to you the incloſed letter from *David Mead*, eſquire, with its incloſure.

And am, Sir, with the higheſt reſpect, your moſt obedient ſervant,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, *Junr. Secry.*

The honorable the Speaker.
In Council, 14th, February, 1785.

And the incloſures were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was recommitted, *February* 12, the report of the committee on the petition of the owners of the Free Maſon's lodge; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed, *February* 7, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the ſecond inſtant; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the Fiſhery in the river* Schuylkill," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *Lincoln*, and Mr. *Woods*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to repeal* "*an act of Aſſembly, entitled*, " An act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, a certain meſ" ſuage, wharf, ferry, and ferrylanding, ſituated on the north ſide of *Mulber*" *ry-Street*, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the city of *Philadelphia*, " late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of high treaſon," *and to re*" *ſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned, to* George Adam Baker; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz*,

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſheriff of " the city and county of *Philadelphia* be, and the ſame ſheriff is hereby en" joined, commanded, authoriſed and required, to proceed with all conveni" ent ſpeed to deliver unto the ſaid *George Adam Baker*, the peaceable poſ" ſeſſion of the premiſes aforeſaid, as far as the ſaid ſheriff diſpoſſeſſed the " ſaid *George Adam Baker*, and no further, ſo that the ſaid poſſeſſion may be " reſtored and holden, as it was before the paſſing of the ſaid act."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, "*to ſtrike out the* "*ſaid clauſe*," whereupon, the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Elias Boys*,
2. *Richard Willing*,
3. *Anthony Wayne*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
6. *Percifor Frazer*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,
8. *Robert Craig*,
9. *Peter Grubb*, junior,
10. *Robert M'Pherſon*,

YEAS.

11. *Henry Miller*,
12. *John Hay*,
13. *Philip Gartner*,
14. *James Ewing*,
15. *Henry Tyſon*,
16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *George Woods*,
18. *Robert Cluggage*,
19. *Matthew Ritchie.*
20. *Peter Richards*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *James Mercer*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *William Stoey*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *David M'Conaughy*,
17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *John Harris*,
19. *William Brown*,
20. *Robert Whitehill*,
21. *Nicholas Lutz*,

NAYS.

22. *Abraham Lincoln*,
23. *Chriſtian Lower*,
24. *Henry Spyker*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Robert Brown*,
29. *Jonas Hartzel*,
30. *John Ralſton*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Daniel Montgomery*,
33. *Samuel Dale*,
34. *William Finley*,
35. *William Todd*,
36. *Thomas Morton*,
37. *John Smiley*,
38. *James Johnſton*,
39. *Abraham Smith*,
40. *James M'Calmont*,
41. *Robert Loller*,

So it was carried in the negative,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *James Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, that he acted in the naval ſervice of this commonwealth, and afterwards as a captain and aid de camp to general Mifflin, and praying he may be entitled to the ſame benefits and emoluments as were granted to the officers of the *Pennſylvania* line and State navy.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *February* 9, was read the ſecond time. *Ordered*

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Mercer* to arrange and report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled,* “ An act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin*, a certain “ meſſuage, wharf, ferry and ferry landing, ſituated on the north ſide of “ *Mulberry-ſtreet*, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the city of *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of high treaſon, *and* “ *to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned, to* George Adam “ Baker.”

And in debating the following paragraphs, *viz.*

“ And whereas, it appears to this Houſe, that the ſheriff of the ſaid city “ and county, did, on the 26th day of *Auguſt* laſt, *take the poſſeſſion of the* “ *premiſes from* George Adam Baker, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *merchant,* “ *and did deliver the ſaid poſſeſſion to the ſaid* Iſaac Auſtin.

It was moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Harris*, that the words after “ *Auguſt laſt*” in the foregoing clauſe, be ſtruck out, and in lieu thereof to inſert “ *cauſe poſſeſſion of the premiſes to be delivered to the ſaid* Iſaac Auſtin.” whereupon.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *John Keller,*
12. *Arthur Erwin,*
13. *James Mercer,*
14. *John Craig,*
15. *Adam Orth,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *William Stoey,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Clark,*
20. *Frederick Watts,*
21. *John Harris,*
22. *William Brown,*
23. *Robert Whitehill,*
24. *Nicholas Lutz,*
25. *Chriſtian Lower,*
26. *Henry Spyker,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*
29. *Robert Brown,*
30. *Jonas Hartzel,*
31. *John Ralſton,*
32. *Frederick Antes,*
33. *Daniel Montgomery,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *Thomas Morton,*
37. *John Smiley,*
38. *Abraham Smith,*
39. *James M‘Calmont,*
40. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
5. *Perſifor Frazer,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *James Ewing,*
11. *David M‘Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15. *Robert Cluggage,*
16. *William Todd,*
17. *Matthew Ritchie,*
18. *Peter Richards,*
19. *Robert Lollor,*

So it was determined in the affirmative and the amendment adopted.

The ſaid bill having thereupon been fully debated by paragraphs. On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Wayne*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *James Mercer*,
15. *John Craig*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Craig*,
21. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
22. *David M‘Conaughy*,
23. *Frederick Watts*,
24. *John Harris*,
25. *William Brown*,
26. *Robert Whitehill*,
27. *Nicholas Lutz*,
28. *Abraham Lincoln*,
29. *Chriſtian Lower*,
30. *Henry Spyker*,
31. *David Davis*,
32. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
33. *Peter Burkhalter*,
34. *Robert Brown*,
35. *Jonas Hartzel*,
36. *John Ralſton*,
37. *Frederick Antes*,
38. *Daniel Montgomery*,
39. *Samuel Dale*,
40. *William Finley*,
41. *William Todd*,
42. *Thomas Morton*,
43. *John Smiley*,
44. *James Johnſton*.
45. *Abraham Smith*,
46. *James M‘Calmont*,
47. *Robert Loller*,
48. *George Smith*.

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Robert Ralſton*,
4. *Charles Humphreys*,
5. *John Hay*,
6. *Philip Gartner*,
7. *James Ewing*,
8. *Henry Tyſon*,
9. *Joſeph Lilly*,
10. *Robert Cluggage*,
11. *Matthew Ritchie*,
12. *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That this Houſe will, during the preſent ſeſſion, on every day (*Saturdays* excepted) adjourn to meet at half paſt nine o'clock in the forenoon of the ſucceeding day, whereupon

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 15, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Philip Kreamer, eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, in the place of *Matthias Rhoads*, eſquire, reſigned, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the ſecond inſtant; was read the ſecond time, whereupon

On motion made by Mr. *Boys*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of the owners of the Free Maſons lodge, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners cannot, with propriety, have leave to bring in a bill agreeably to the prayer of their petition, until notice of ſuch application ſhall have been publiſhed four weeks ſucceſſively in the *Pennſylvania Journal*.

A memorial and petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act entitled, " *A ſupplement to an act entitled*, " An act to enable *William Clengan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkead*, *Roger Kirk*, " *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon*, and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a new Court Houſe " and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and ſell the Old Court Houſe and " Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*;" and praying this Houſe to take into conſideration, their petitions and remonſtrances to the late Aſſembly; to allow them an opportunity to be heard before this Houſe, or a committee thereof; and to repeal or ſuſpend the further execution of the ſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton*, and *Forks* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, was read, praying a ſupplement to the act entitled, " *An act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly,* " *heretofore made, for regulating the election of the Juſtices of the Peace through-* " *out this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections; and to* " *authoriſe the Juſtices of the Peace of* Philadelphia, *to hold the courts of record* " *of the ſaid city*;" may be paſſed, authoriſing the people of the ſeveral diſtricts, to chuſe other aſſiſtant judges, to ſupply the place of thoſe who ſhall refuſe to act in conformity to the aforeſaid law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hewſon*, callico, cotton, and linen printer, was read, ſetting forth that he was the firſt and only perſon who performed a merchantable piece of manufacture of that kind, within the United States; and praying the encouragement of the Legiſlature, either by premium, a loan of money, for a certain time, without intereſt, or an excluſive right for a number of years.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for electing two delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until *Saturday* next.

A petition from a number of the ſettlers on the late *Indian* lands, in the county of *Northumberland*, in behalf of themſelves and others, was read, praying commiſſioners may be appointed to ſettle and adjuſt the priority and reality of their ſeveral improvements, as well as the reſpective temporary lines, and to certify the ſame to the proper officer, previous to the iſſuing any warrants for the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Michael Ryan*, was read, ſetting forth, that although he obtained a certificate, in a legal manner, from the auditors of the public accounts, for his public ſervices, and negociated and transferred the ſame (as he apprehended he had a right to do) that a demand was afterwards made upon him, by the Comptroller General, and he was arreſted, and is now actually in the cuſtody of the ſheriff, to anſwer the amount of the ſaid certificate, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Tharp*,, read *February* 10, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *Dale*, to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject matter, and report thereon.

The report of the committee, on the petition of *George Eſpy*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *March* 27 laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to authoriſe the holding priſoners arreſted in the county of* Montgomery, "*for debts and offences, in the Gaol and Work-Houſe of the county of* Philadel- "phia, *until a proper Priſon ſhall be erected within the county of* Montgome- "ry;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt Chriſtian* "*majeſty to ſue for and recover, in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that* "*may be due to them in this ſtate*;" was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, "*An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Nathaniel Irwin, *and* "Martha, *his wife*;" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 16, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Maurice Derdeven*, late a captain in the army of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he furniſhed the ſaid army in *Canada* with proviſions to the amount of $82\frac{82}{90}$ dollars, and praying payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hughs*, late an officer in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that his health, during the late war, hath been greatly impaired without a probability of recovery unleſs he goes to ſea, that this ſalutary method he is totally unable to purſue, unleſs this Houſe will grant him the arrearages of his pay, or a part thereof, out of the treaſury of this ſtate; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the owners and maſters of chimney ſweepers, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act entitled, "*An act for* "*regulating chimney ſweepers, within the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* "Southwark, *and the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties *of the city of* Phila- "delphia," ſo far as the ſaid act allows a weekly allowance to the ſuperintendant of the ſweeps from the ſaid owners, and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller General, was read, ſetting forth, that in the ſettlement of the account of *Samuel J. Atlee*, eſq. for his pay as a delegate in Congreſs, he conceives an error hath taken place to the prejudice of the ſtate, to the amount of £593 : 17 : 0, and requeſting the directions of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 11th inſtant to confer with the commiſſioners choſen in purſuance of the third reſolution of the General Aſſembly, adopted the 15th day of *September*, 1783, to aſcertain as near as conveniently may be, where the northern boundary of this ſtate will fall, &c. made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of divers officers, late of the ſtate navy,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An act* "*for the ſupport of government,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the appointment of delegates to ſerve* "*in Congreſs,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be recommitted with the addition of Mr. *Woods.*

The bill entitled, "*An act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public* "*officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a* "*ſummary manner by the Comptroller General of this ſtate,*" was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 17, 1785. A. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John M'Dowell, eſq. elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the houſe, was qualified conformably to to the conſtitution, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council of the 2d inſtant; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Your committee are clearly of opinion, that theſe communications ought to engage the early and ſerious attention of the Houſe; but that the ſentiments therein contained correſpond with the general tenor and tendency of the meſſage referred to, or ſupport the arguments therein uſed, your committee cannot perceive: On the contrary, theſe communications furniſh ſtrong additional arguments in favour of the meaſure, which that meſſage ſeems to have been intended to fruſtrate or deſtroy: Theſe communications however, were made to the Houſe under an injunction of ſecrecy, which your committee apprehend, precludes them from any particular recital of their contents, though the meſſage, which the houſe had been careful, according to that injunction, to confine within the circle of its own members, was very early publiſhed from a copy obtained elſewhere."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne,* ſeconded by Mr. *Miller,* to ſtrike out the words after "*cannot perceive*" till the word deſtroy: whereupon

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Wayne* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Robert Graig,*
7. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
8. *Robert M'Pherſon,*

YEAS.

9. *Henry Miller,*
10. *John Hay,*
11. *Philip Gartner,*
12. *James Ewing,*
13. *David M'Conaughy,*
14. *Henry Tyſon,*
15. *Joſeph Lilly,*
16. *William Brown,*
17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Henry Spyker,*

YEAS.

19. *Philip Kreamer,*
20. *Peter Burkhalter,*
21. *Robert Brown,*
22. *George Woods,*
23. *Robert Cluggage.*
24. *Samuel Dale,*
25. *William Todd,*
26. *Thomas Morton,*
27. *Matthew Ritchie,*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *Elias Boys,*
7. *James Vanſant,*
8. *Manuel Eyre,*
9. *William Coats,*
10. *Thomas Long,*
11. *John Clark,*
12. *Joſeph Thomas,*
13. *Arthur Erwin,*
14. *Joſeph St awbridge,*
15. *Perſifor Frazer,*
16. *John Craig,*
17. *Adam Orth,*
18. *James Porter,*
29. *William Stoey,*
20. *David Jenkins,*

NAYS.

21. *Robert Clark,*
22. *Frederick Watts,*
23. *John Harris,*
24. *Robert Whitehill,*
25. *Abraham Lincoln,*
26. *Chriſtian Lower,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *John Ralſton,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *William Finley,*
34. *John M'Dowell,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" The firſt mentioned requiſition of the 18th day of *April*, 1783, your committee find, was promptly and fully complied with by the legiſlature of this ſtate, by an act paſſed the 23d day of *September*, 1783, entitled, " *An act for* " *levying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of* five per centum " ad valorem, *on all other goods, wares or merchandize imported into this ſtate,* " *and a tax upon real and perſonal property, for the diſcharge of the debts of* " *the United States of* America, *agreeable to acts of Congreſs therein recited,* " *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" except the organization of the tax mentioned in the ſaid act, for the raiſing and collecting of 205,189 dollars annually, which tax is propoſed to be carried into effect by a bill lately publiſhed for conſideration."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, to ſtrike out the words " *which tax is propoſed to be carried into effect by a bill lately publiſhed for* " *conſideration*: whereupon,

The Yeas and Nays being called for by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Humphreys* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Peter Grubb*, junior,
7. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
8. *Henry Miller*,
9. *John Hay*,
10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *Frederick Watts*,
16. *William Brown*,

YEAS.

17. *Nicholas Lutz*,
18. *Abraham Lincoln*,
19. *Chriſtian Lower*,
20. *Henry Spyker*,
21. *David Davis*,
22. *Philip Kreamer*,
23. *Peter Burkhalter*,
24. *Robert Brown*,
25. *George Woods*,
26. *Robert Cluggage*,
27. *Samuel Dale*,
28. *William Todd*,
29. *Thomas Morton*,
30. *Matthew Ritchie*.
31. *James M'Calmont*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*
14. *Percifor Frazer*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *James Porter*,

NAYS.

19. *William Stoey*,
20. *David Jenkins*,
21. *Robert Craig*,
22. *Robert Clark*,
23. *John Harris*,
24. *Robert Whitehill*,
25. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26. *Jonas Hartzel*,
27. *John Ralſton*,
28. *Frederick Antes*,
29. *Daniel Montgomery*,
30. *William Finley*,
31. *John M'Dowell*,
32. *James Johnſton*,
33. *Abraham Smith*,
34. *George Smith*,
35. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was carried in the negative.

And the ſaid report having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs, was adopted as follows, *viz*.

The committee to whom were referred the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the 2d inſtant, together with the letter from his excellency the Preſident of Congreſs, of the 21ſt of laſt month, and its encloſures, beg leave to report,

That they have read and attentively conſidered the ſaid meſſage and the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, which the council have been pleaſed to ſay contain ſentiments which "ſo perfectly correſpond with thoſe delivered in their meſſage of the firſt inſtant, and which ſo remarkably ſupport the arguments therein uſed," as to give great weight to them, and to merit the immediate attention of the Houſe,

Your committee are clearly of opinion, that theſe communications ought to engage the early and ſerious attention of the Houſe; but that the ſentiments therein contained, correſpond with the general tenor and tendency of the meſſage referred to, or ſupport the arguments therein uſed, your committee cannot perceive: On the contrary, theſe communications furniſh ſtrong additional arguments in favour of the meaſure which that meſſage ſeems to have been intended to fruſtrate and deſtroy. Theſe communications, however, were made to the Houſe, under an injunction of ſecrecy, which your committee apprehend precludes them from any particular recital of their contents; though the meſſage, which the Houſe had been careful, according to that injunction, to confine within the circle of its own members, was very early publiſhed from a copy obtained elſewhere.

The reſolution of Congreſs of the 20th of *January* does not contain any requiſition; and it appears to your committee, that their ſole object in the tranſmiſſion of that reſolution and the papers accompanying it, was to urge a compliance with their former requiſitions, as modified by their acts of the 18th of *April*, 1783, and 27th and 28th of *April*, 1784.

The firſt mentioned requiſition of the 18th of *April*, 1783, your committee find, was promptly and fully complied with by the legiſlature of this ſtate, by an act paſſed the 23d of *September*, 1783, entitled, "*An act for levying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of five* per centum " ad valorem, *on all other goods, wares and merchandize, imported into this ſtate,* " *and a tax upon real and perſonal property, for the diſcharge of the debts of the* " *United States of* America, *agreeable to acts of Congreſs, therein recited, and* " *for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" except the organization of the tax, mentioned in the ſaid act, for the raiſing and collecting of 205,189 dollars annually; which tax is propoſed to be carried into effect by a bill lately printed for conſideration.

The latter of theſe requiſitions, as contained in the acts of the 27th and 28th of *April*, 1784, reduced, for the reaſons therein mentioned; two former requiſitions, one of eight millions, and the other of two millions, to the conſolidated ſum of four millions of dollars, for the ſervices of the year 1784, as ſtated in an eſtimate contained in the ſaid act, in which are included the ſuppoſed demands of the various departments, with an allowance for contingencies; debts contracted and remaining unpaid, for the ſervices in 1782, and 1783; the whole intereſt due and to become due on the foreign debt to the laſt of *December*, 1784; and the whole intereſt of the domeſtic debt to the laſt of *December*, 1783. This requiſition called on the ſeveral ſtates for the payment of ſo much of their reſpective quotas of the ſaid four millions of dollars as then remained unpaid, and admitted, by way of facility, in the payment, that on three fourths thereof being paid in ſpecie, the other fourth part might be diſcounted with their reſpective citizens in payment of intereſt due on their certificates. The quota of *Pennſylvania*, on this requiſition, was ſtated at 560,397 dollars, and the receiver of continental taxes in this ſtate, acknowledges the receipt of 439,800 dollars, on account thereof, which leaves a balance due to the United States, on that account, of 120,597 dollars, payable out of the arrearages of taxes due from the citizens of this ſtate, impoſed in the year 1782, and 1783, no meaſure having been taken by this ſtate to avail itſelf of the facilities abovementioned.

Your committee are therefore of opinion, that on the payment of the above balance of 120,597 dollars, this ſtate will have fully complied, on her part, with the intention of Congreſs in making the communication now under conſideration.

Your committee, however, beg leave to remark on this occaſion, that although

though a conſiderable number of the citizens of this ſtate have chearfully paid their reſpective quotas of theſe taxes, a large proportion yet remains to be collected from thoſe who are equally able to pay, after making a reaſonable allowance for ſuch as particular circumſtances may require ſhould be farther indulged or wholly exonorated; and that juſtice to thoſe who have already paid their ſhare, as well as the urgency of the public demands for money, makes it neceſſary that the moſt ſpeedy and effectual meaſures be taken to enforce the collection of ſuch of the ſaid arrearages as ought to be collected.

Your committe, therefore, offer the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby enjoined to cauſe the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties in this ſtate, to proceed according to law, in procuring the collection of the arrearages of taxes now due in this ſtate, and to proſecute ſuch of the officers concerned in the collection of the ſaid taxes as ſhall reſpectively refuſe or neglect to perform the duties enjoined on them.

Reſolved, That the treaſurer of this ſtate be, and he is hereby directed to pay to the order of the United States, with and out of the firſt monies he ſhall receive for the taxes now due, ſo much as, together with the ſums already paid, out of the taxes of 1782, and 1783, ſhall amount to the ſum of 560,397 dollars.

The bill entitled, "*An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Nathaniel Irwin, *and* "Martha, *his wife*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

A meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz*.

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

GENTLEMEN,

THE commiſſioners on the part of this commonwealth, and of the ſtate of *Virginia*, having determined, by aſtronomical obſervations, the extent of five degrees of longitude, weſt from the river *Delaware*, in the latitude of *Maſon*'s and *Dixon*'s line, and having run and marked the continuation of that line, to the termination of the ſaid five degrees, and our commiſſioners having reported their proceedings to your honorable Houſe, as well as to us, we have no other information to offer on that ſubject, except an accurate draft of the ſaid continuation, compleating the ſouthern boundary of *Pennſylvania*, which we now have the pleaſure of incloſing.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, *Philadelphia*, *February* 16*th*, 1785.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, *February* 18, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the honorable *Joſeph Gardner*, eſq. one of the delegates repreſenting this ſtate, in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers managers of a lottery, appointed in the year 1773, in conjunction with others, for the purpoſe of building *Newark* academy, *Skippack Lutheran* church, and repairing *Noriton* meeting-houſe, was read,

praying

praying leave to bring in a bill to enable them to recover the outſtanding debts of the ſaid lottery, and to compel the managers to ſettle their accounts, in order that the demands againſt the lottery may be diſcharged, and the ſurplus of the money applied to the good purpoſes thereby intended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Blackall William Ball*, late a lieutenant in the third *Pennſylvania* regiment, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay; and praying a new one may be granted him, in lieu of that which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the non-jurors, and other inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, were read, praying a repeal of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under, by the ſeveral acts for raiſing country rates and levies, and particularly the act for building a new court-houſe in the ſaid county, whereby the county commiſſioners and aſſeſſors are required, to aſſeſs and levy ſo much money as the truſtees for building the ſaid new court-houſe, or any two of them, ſhall judge neceſſary, after ſelling the old court-houſe and priſon; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Van Foſſen*, collector of taxes in and for *Worceſter* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed of a conſiderable ſum of public money, by him received, in payment for taxes; and praying he may be allowed the ſame on a final ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants weſtward of the *Allegheny* mountain, was read, praying that they may be exempted from the payment of any intereſt on the conſideration money, for their improved lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Robinſon*, read *February* 8, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *J. Craig*, and Mr. *Porter*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Michael Ryan*, read *February* 15, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Watts*, to report thereon.

The petition of the members of the *Preſbyterian* congregation of *Cheſnut-Level*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *February* 9, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The letter from the treaſurer of the ſtate, read *February* 14, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be, and they are hereby authoriſed and impowered, to examine and deſtroy all the notes iſſued by the ſaid treaſurer, for paying one years intereſt on loan-office and other certificates, now in his poſſeſſion; as well as all the bills of credit which remain in his hands and bear date the 20th day of *April*, 1780.

The committee appointed, *February* 7, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the fourth day of *December* laſt, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with the commiſſioners,

ers, &c. read *February* 16, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed, on the 11th inſtant, to confer with the commiſſioners elected in purſuance of the third reſolution of the General aſſembly, adopted the 15th of *September*, 1783, to examine the navigation of the *Suſquehanna*, and to aſcertain, as near as conveniently may be, where the northern boundary of this ſtate will fall, &c. beg leave to report,

That the aſcertaining of the northern boundary of this ſtate, is rendered the more immediately neceſſary, by the late purchaſe of territory from the *Indians*, and the deſign of opening the land-office, for the ſale of lands bordering on the ſaid boundary; eſpecially, as your committee are well informed, that the *Six Nations* of *Indians*, have appointed one of their chiefs to attend the commiſſioners, on the part of this ſtate, in running and marking the ſaid boundary line, as early as the ſeaſon will admit.

That on conſidering the other objects of the ſaid reſolution of the 15th of *September*, 1783, your committee are highly ſenſible of their importance to the true intereſts of this ſtate, and as they may be effected by the ſame commiſſioners, without any conſiderable additional expence, your committee are of opinion that they ought alſo to be carried into execution.

That your committee have conferred with two of the ſaid commiſſioners, and find that they are nearly prepared, and propoſe to ſet out on the buſineſs, about the firſt of *April*; but as greater accuracy ſeems now to be requiſite, in aſcertaining the northern boundary, than was formerly in contemplation, a farther ſupply of mathematical inſtruments may be neceſſary.

Your committee, therefore, offer the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That the commiſſioners appointed in purſuance of the ſaid third reſolution of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, adopted on the 15th of *September*, 1783, be directed to proceed, as early as may be, to execute the objects of their appointment, ſo far as may be done without proceeding up the *Suſquehanna* beyond the limits of this ſtate, being careful to mark the northern boundary line thereof in ſuch manner as that the ſame may be readily known and underſtood by the ſurveyors and ſettlers, and alſo by the *Indians*, who may approach the ſame.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and deſired to cauſe to be paid out of the treaſury of this ſtate, to the ſaid commiſſioners, ſuch ſum of money as to the ſaid Council ſhall appear proper, in addition to what the ſaid commiſſioners have heretofore received, for the purpoſe of purchaſing inſtruments, proviſions, and other neceſſaries, for the ſaid ſervice—And alſo, ſuch ſum and ſums as the ſaid commiſſioners, or any of them, ſhall reſpectively require on account of their pay, not exceeding fifty pounds to each of the ſaid commiſſioners.

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, be deſired to incloſe the foregoing reſolution, to the governor of the ſtate of *New-York*, and to requeſt that commiſſioners, on the part of that ſtate, may be appointed, to run and mark a temporary line between the ſtates of *Pennſylvania*, and *New-York*, in conjunction with the commiſſioners of this ſtate—And that the commiſſioners of this ſtate, be directed to meet at the north-eaſt corner of this ſtate, or ſtation point, as heretofore ſettled, on the firſt day of *April* next.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons, who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the Comptroller General of this State.

An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, " An act to veſt in *Iſaac Auſtin* " a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry and ferry landing, ſituated on the north " ſide of *Mulberry-ſtreet*, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the city of " *Philadelphia*, late the property of *William Auſtin*, attainted of high treaſon," *and to reſtore the poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned, to* George Adam Baker.

An act for the better ſecuring perſonal liberty and preventing wrongful impriſonments.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 19, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The letter from the honorable *Joſeph Gardner*, eſquire, one of the delegates of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the clerk furniſh the delegates, repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, with a copy of the laws and minutes of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate, were read, praying the market in *High-ſtreet*, may be extended from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, and ſo from time to time, further weſtward, as may be thought neceſſary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a motion, reſpecting the improvement of the navigation of the river *Suſquehanna*, to the *Maryland* line, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day the Houſe proceeded to the election of two delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the honorable *Matthew Clarkſon* and *David Jackſon*, eſquires, were duly elected.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, was read, ſtating, that in caſe a diviſion of the ſaid county ſhould take place, *Anvil-town* would be the moſt elegible place for holding the courts of juſtice, being the moſt central part of the intended new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying an exemption from the payment of exciſe on liquors by them diſtilled, or by others for them, out of the produce of their farms and neceſſarily expended in their own families.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, read *December* 15th laſt, and *February* 15th; and the memorial of the commiſſioners of the ſaid county, read yeſterday; were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county to report a bill if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from *John Milnor*, late a collector of fines within the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he is now inſolvent, and confined in the gaol of the ſaid county, and praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county, may be removed from the town of *Sunbury* to the town of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was recommitted, the bill entitled, "*An act to* "*declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive Council of this commonwealth,* "*to appoint all officers civil and military, except in caſes reſerved, by the conſti-* "*tution, to the General aſſembly, and to the people; and to repeal the laws,* "*whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto, and to ſecure the* "*independency of the Comptroller General by a commiſſion for ſeven years, and* "*a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good behaviour only*;" made report, whereupon the ſaid bill was read the firſt time,

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to veſt the perſonal eſtate of the late corporation of the mayor and common-* "*alty of the city of* Philadelphia, *in the wardens of the ſaid city*; *and to direct* "*the immediate ſale of the Old Gaol and Workhouſe of the county of* Philadel-"phia; *and to appropriate the ſaid perſonal eſtate, and part of the monies* "*to ariſe from the ſale of the ſaid Gaol and Workhouſe to the building of two* "*Court-houſes, one for the ſaid city, and the other for the ſaid county, on the* "*State-houſe lot, in the ſaid city*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and* "*eighteen months men*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, "*An act to authoriſe the holding of priſoners arreſted with-* "*in the county of* Montgomery *for debts and offences, in the Gaol and Work-* "*houſe of the county of* Philadelphia, *until a proper priſon ſhall be erected with-* "*in the county of* Montgomery;" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs; whereupon

A member preſented to the chair an additional clauſe to the ſaid bill, which was read the firſt time,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, February 21, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Willis*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to divorce him from *Mary*, his wife; grounding the application to the Houſe, upon a conviction of the ſaid *Mary*, in a court of law, of the crime of adultery; a certificate of which was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers non-jurors, inhabitants of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, was read; praying for a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An extract from the Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, *February 16th*, 1785.

THE report of the Truſtees of *Weſtmoreland* county, pointing out a piece of ground, about four miles ſouth from *Hanna's-Town*, and late the property of *William Jack*, as the moſt convenient place for building the Court-Houſe and Priſon for the ſaid county, was read, with a number of petitions for and againſt the confirmation of the ſame; upon which it was

Ordered, That the ſaid report be diſapproved and rejected.

Extract from the Minutes of Council,
of the 22d of December, 1784.
JOHN ARMSTRONG, *Junr. Secry.*

And the ſeveral petitions, in the foregoing extract referred to, were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the perſons delegated by ~~thirteen~~ 19 townſhips within the county of *Montgomery*, was read, ſtating that at a meeting of the ſaid townſhips as aforeſaid, they unanimouſly were of opinion, that *Whitemarſh*, near *Farmer*'s mill, was the moſt ſuitable place for holding the courts of juſtice within the ſaid county, and therefore pray, that the ſeat of juſtice, of ſaid county, may be removed to the place aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Moore*, was read, praying a compenſation for enliſting, cloathing, and arming the corps raiſed in *October*, 1783, as well as for the additional ſervices done this ſtate, by allowing a commiſſion on all public money received and paid by him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Church-wardens, Veſtry-men, and members of the Congregation of the *Epiſcopal* Church of *St. Johns*, in *Pequea*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying a law may be paſſed, appointing Truſtees to ſell and convey, in fee ſimple, two certain tracts of land, the property of the ſaid congregation, and the money ariſing from the ſale thereof, to lend on legal intereſt, taking, as a ſecurity for the payment thereof, a mortgage or other ſecurity of real property, for the uſes and truſts to which the ſaid two tracts of land were conveyed to the ſaid congregation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a ſupplement to the act entitled, “ *An act declaring the river* Suſquehanna, *and other ſtreams there-“ in mentioned, public high ways; for improving the navigation of the ſaid river “ and ſtreams, and preſerving the fiſh in the ſame*;” and to extend the improvement of the navigation of ſaid river, to the *Maryland* line,

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Ewing*, and Mr. *Harris*, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, “ *An “ act concerning divorces and alimony*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, “ *A “ ſupplement to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares and merchandize “ imported, for ſecuring more effectually the revenues ariſing from the ſame*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, “ *An act for the better regulation of the public ſquares, “ ſtreets, lanes, alleys, ſtairs, wharfs, common ſewers and water courſes in the “ city of* Philadelphia, *and the diſtricts of the* Northern Liberties *and* South-“ wark, *and for ſupplying ſeveral deficiencies in the laws heretofore made for “ that purpoſe, and for the regulation of the private buildings, wharfs, lots and “ fences in the ſaid city and diſtricts, and to declare divers new ſtreets opened*

" *and to be opened and laid out within the ſaid city and diſtricts to be highways,* " *and alſo to declare nuiſances, by buildings within the ſtreets of the ſaid city re-* " *moveable; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* was read, praying a law may be paſſed, declaring the improvers and actual ſettlers, whoſe improvements or ſettlements have been prior to the rights obtained from the ſtate of *Virginia,* to have the preference.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half after nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 22, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers freemen of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* read in the late Aſſembly, *September* 1ſt, laſt, were preſented to the chair and read

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freemen, inhabitants of the lower part of *Lancaſter* county, was read, ſetting forth, that the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Cocalico, Brecknock, Carnarvon, Saliſbury* and *Earl,* in the ſaid county, labour under many difficulties for want of a proper ſchool for the education of their children, and ſtating that the Conſtitution declares that the legiſlature ought to eſtabliſh and promote ſeminaries of learning; therefore praying this Houſe to aid them in the eſtabliſhment of a ſchool for the advancement of uſeful knowledge, and to grant them an incorporation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ann Rhoads,* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband purchaſed from a certain *Rowland Pritchard,* a lot of ground in *Shippen-ſtreet,* in the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and received a deed of conveyance for the ſame; that afterwards he placed the ſaid deed, amongſt other papers, in the care of the ſaid *Pritchard*; that the ſaid deed was deſtroyed by a relation of the ſaid *Pritchard*; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill to veſt the eſtate in the heirs of her ſaid late huſband.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter, truſtees, elders, deacons and others of the *German Lutheran* church of *Germantown* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to incorporate the ſaid congregation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Owen Owen, Ebenezer Owen, Thomas Hughes, William Darrach and James Bryan,* was read, ſetting forth, that their chain of title to a certain piece of land within the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia,* is defective by the loſs of certain title deeds, and praying leave to bring in a bill to confirm their reſpective eſtates in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the borough of *Briſtol* in the county of *Bucks,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for re-eſtabliſhing their ancient charter, ſo far as the ſame may be conſiſtent with the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* was read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table,

On motion *Ordered,* That Mr. *Humphreys* have leave of abſence until *Thurſday* next.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *York,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this* "*ſtate, &c.* and ſtating, that it would be inconſiſtent with good government to levy a general tax until the arrearages of taxes are collected, at leaſt until what remains of them be not ſufficient with other funds to anſwer the preſent demand, therefore praying no tax may be laid for the preſent year, and that effectual meaſures may be taken to collect thoſe already due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Henry Willis,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The extract from the minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, with its encloſures, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Woods,* Mr. *Finley,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Morton,* Mr. *Ritchie,* Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Smiley,* to report thereon.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed for the year 1783, within the county of *Northampton.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That to-morrow be aſſigned to take up for the third reading, the bill entitled, "*An act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter "*into a ſeparate county.*"

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Potts* be added to the committee appointed on the bill, entitled, "*An act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill."

The report of the committee, read *February* 9th, appointed to examine the neceſſary repairs of the State-Houſe; was read the ſecond time and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to examine the neceſſary repairs of the State-Houſe, report as follows.

That the paving and gravelling at the front of the State-Houſe and the weſt gate way, will coſt when finiſhed,	£226	0	0
Shingling part of the Lobby roof, and painting it, the cornices, windows, &c.	22	10	0
New red cedar poſts (turned) and a neat rail of pine along the *Cheſnut-ſtreet* front, and painting,	70	0	0
Fixing the old poſt (now at the front) at ſeveral places on the other ſide of the ſquare, and graveling the foot way on the ſouth and weſt ſides,	25	0	0
Hanging the bell in the upper brick ſtory, and ſetting three of the windows with ſounding boards, painting, &c.	75	0	0
Repairing the windows, locks and latches to neceſſary houſe,	3	10	0
Making a water cloſet on the landing of the ſtairs.	10	0	0
Chairs, Venetian blinds, to two windows, work, &c. at repairing and altering the doors, laying the hearth in the Aſſembly room, making caſes, &c. to file the papers in the clerks rooms,	50	0	0
To prevent future damage to the walls under the windows of the whole building, we propoſe to add moulding ſills to 36 windows, which will coſt	23	10	0
	£505	10	0

Therefore, *Reſolved*, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to have ſuch repairs made in and about the State-Houſe, as in the foregoing report are ſpecified to be neceſſary; and for defraying the expence thereof, the Preſident or Vice Preſident in Council may draw on the State Treaſurer for any ſum not exceeding five hundred and fifty pounds.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Finley*,

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council, agreeably to the conſtitution, to draw upon the treaſury for the purpoſes expreſſed in the ſaid reſolution.

And after ſome debate had enſued thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, " *An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Henry Willis *with* Mary *his wife*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act to enable the agent or agents of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to them in this ſtate*;" and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, " *An act to incorporate the* Preſbyterian *congregation in* Abington *townſhip in the county of* Montgomery," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 23, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Van Swearingen*, late a captain in the eighth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying this Houſe to order his depreciation, as well as thoſe of his ſoldiers to be liquidated and paid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate, ſetting forth, that the roads from the eaſt ſide of the *North Mountain* to the weſt ſide of the *Cheſnut Ridge*, weſtward of *Ligonier*, being more than one hundred miles in length, are laid out over a mountainous country, and the inhabitants few in number, and altogether unable to open a good road over thoſe mountains; therefore praying a law may be paſſed for opening a road over the ſaid mountains at the expence of the ſtate, was read together with the warmeſt recommendation of two of the juſtices of the Supreme Court and the Grand Jury of the county of *Cumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An addreſs from divers inhabitants and freemen of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, expreſſing their entire approbation of the general principles of the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*;" but ſuggeſting their fears that the paper money propoſed to be emitted, will depreciate, from the great quantity thereof, and repreſenting that the ſum of £50,000, which by the ſaid bill is appropriated to eſtabliſh a Loan Office, is too ſmall a proportion of the ſame to give adequate relief to the ſeveral counties.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Briſtol*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt* "*of the debts of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of* "*the public debts of this ſtate*;" and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Matthew Clarkſon*, and *Ebenezer Hazard*, Adminiſtrators of the eſtate of *Pierre Eugene du Simitiere*, deceaſed, read *February* 9, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *Ritchie*, to report thereon.

The petition of Lieutenant Colonel *James Moore*, read *February* 21, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Frazer*, and Mr. *M'Pherſon*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Frazer* have leave of abſence until *Friday* next.

The petition of *Maurice Derdeven*, read, *February* 16, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Woods*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed on the letter from *Matthew Clarkſon*, and *Ebenezer Hazard*, Aſtminiſtrators of the eſtate of *Pierre Eugene du Simitiere*, deceaſed; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill entitled, "*An act for erecting* "*part of the county of* Lancaſter, *into a ſeparate county*;" was read the third time, and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for e-* "*recting part of the county of* Lancaſter, *into a ſeparate county*;" and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, until tomorrow morning.

A member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, "*An act to enlarge the* "*ſummary juriſdiction of the Juſtices of the Peace, in actions of debt or de-* "*mand, to ſums not exceeding ten pounds; and to declare demands for ſpiritu-* "*ous liquors, delivered in ſmall quantities, not recoverable; and to repeal an act* "*entitled*, "A ſupplement to an act for the more eaſy and ſpeedy recovery of "ſmall debts," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to extend the regulations made by an act of Aſſembly, entitled*, "An act "declaring the river *Suſquehanna*, and other ſtreams therein mentioned, pub- "lic highways; for improving the navigation of the ſame river and ſtreams, "and preſerving the fiſh in the ſame," *to the parts of the ſaid river below*

“ ‘ Wrights-Ferry ; *and to appoint new Commiſſioners to enforce the ſame* ;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial from the perſons delegated by the ſeveral townſhips within the county of *Montgomery*, read *February* 21, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *J. Craig*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Burkhalter*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M‘Calmont*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *February* 24, 1785. A. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Joſeph Knight*, was read, referring to his former petition, read *December* 20 laſt, and praying relief in the matters therein ſet forth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the freeholders and inhabitants of the *Northern-Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating, that to be incorporated with the ſaid city, with reſpect to the providing and ſupporting their poor, is burthenſome and diſadvantageous ; and praying to be ſeparated therefrom.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1778, whilſt on a tour of militia duty, he unfortunately fell into the hands of the *Britiſh* army, at the *Crooked-Billet*, and received a number of wounds, which have rendered him incapable of ſupporting himſelf by labour ; that the Orphans Court of the county of *Cumberland*, have drawn orders, at different times, on the County Lieutenant, for his half-pay, but obtained little or no relief from him, having no money in his hands ; therefore, praying, an order may be granted him, on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, for the arrearages of his half-pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers Non-Jurors, in behalf of themſelves and others, was read, praying for a reviſion of the Teſt-Laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Smiley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Finley*, which was read and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas, the outſtanding of impoſt duty, under the charge of the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia*, appeared to be very great, when a committee of this Houſe made enquiry concerning the ſame, in the month of *December* laſt.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to make enquiry concerning the ſtate thereof, at this time, and to report to this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *A. Smith*, and Mr. *Finley*, be a committee for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day, for reſuming the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act for erecting part of the county of* Lan-“ caſter, *into a ſeparate county* ;” be poſtponed until to-morrow morning.

The petitions from divers freemen of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 22, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Ma-*

whorter, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, and Mr. *Richards*, to report thereon.

The petition of the Commiſſioners for the county of *Montgomery*, read *December* 20 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *J. Craig*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Burkhalter*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Oxford*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act* " *for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the* " *debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public* " *debts of this ſtate*," and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair, a motion reſpecting the expences incurred ſince the 22d day of *September*, 1783, by the levying, paying, victualing, and marching of troops, &c. to ſuppreſs the diſorders at *Wyoming*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Neigal Gray*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1760, a certain *Nathaniel Taylor*, ſince deceaſed, mortgaged a tract of land, ſituate in *Allen* townſhip, *Northampton* county, with the Truſtees of the General Loan-Office, and depoſited the deed for the ſame in the ſaid Office, which deed cannot now be found; and praying leave to bring in a bill, to veſt in him the title to the premiſes, ſo far as the ſame is rendered defective by the loſs of the aforeſaid deed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Strawbridge*, have leave of abſence until *Wedneſday* next.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to au-* " *thoriſe the holding of priſoners arreſted within the county of* Montgomery, *for* " *debts and offences, in the Gaol and Work-houſe of the county of* Philadelphia, " *until a priſon ſhall be erected within the county of* Montgomery," and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of divers officers late of the ſtate* " *navy*," was read the ſecond time and in part debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *congregation of* Cheſnut Level, *in the townſhip of* Drumore *and county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*.

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned to take up for a ſecond reading the bill entitled, "*A ſupplement to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares,* " *and merchandize imported, for ſecuring more effectually the revenues ariſing* " *from the ſame*.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 25, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition from *Van Swearingen*, read *February* 23, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Morton and* Mr. *Ritchie* to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Montgomery*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *R. Craig* and Mr. *Watts* to report thereon.

The petition of *Neigal Gray*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *Loller* to report thereon.

The petition of *Ebenezer Owen*, and others, read *February* 22, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

The petition of *William M‘Elhatton*, read *February* 11, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Grubb*, Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *A. Smith* to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, was read, praying the market may be extended in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and ſo from time to time, as may be thought neceſſary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Wallace*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1782, his wife and children were captured by the ſavages, at his dwelling, that in the year 1784 he contracted with a certain *Joſeph Nicholſon* to proceed to the *Indian* country and recover ſuch of his ſurviving family as might be then living; that the ſaid *Nicholſon* accordingly, did recover and bring back his only ſurviving ſon, with divers other perſons, and as a compenſation for his ſervices, hath rendered his account, amounting to £48 15 0, and ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation that he is unable to pay the above ſum, unleſs this Houſe will be pleaſed to allow him the above ſum in the patenting of his lands; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers witneſſes attending the late conteſted election of repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be allowed a reaſonable compenſation for their time and expenditures whilſt attending this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, were read, praying, that conformably to the conſtitution, a ſeminary for promoting learning may be eſtabliſhed in the ſaid county, and ſuggeſting that the village of *Straſburg*, in the ſaid county, would be the moſt convenient and advantageous place to eſtabliſh ſuch a ſeminary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Divers petitions from the diſtrict of *Southwark* and the townſhips of *Moyamenſing*, and *Paſſyunk*, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, “ *An act for* “ *furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts* “ *of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts* “ *of this ſtate*,” were read, praying the ſaid bill may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *February* 7, on the petition of *Hannah Nevil*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed on the ſeveral petitions for removing the ſeat of juſtice from the neighbourhood of *Stony Run*, within the county of *Montgomery*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, on the letter from *Matthew Clarkſon* and *Ebenezer Hazard*, eſqrs. adminiſtrators to the eſtate of *Pierre Eugene* du *Simitiere*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe entertain a proper ſenſe of the good intentions of the adminiſtrators of the eſtate of Mr. du *Simitiere*, in offering to the ſtate the pre-emption of his curious and uſeful collection of natural and artificial productions; but that it is not at preſent expedient or conſiſtent with the ſtate of the treaſury to accept the ſaid offer.

Reſolved, That the Speaker be requeſted to incloſe this reſolution to the ſaid adminiſtrators in anſwer to their ſaid letter.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for erecting part of* the county of Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county*," and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the juſtices of the courts of Quarter Seſſions and Common Pleas, now commiſſioned within the limits of the county of *Dauphin*, and thoſe that may hereafter be commiſſioned, or any three of them, ſhall and may hold courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the peace and Gaol Delivery, and County Courts for holding of Pleas, and ſhall have all and ſingular ſuch powers, rights, juriſdictions and authorities, to all intents and purpoſes, as other juſtices of the courts of General Quarter Seſſions and juſtices of the County Courts for holding of Pleas in the other counties of this ſtate may, can or ought to have within their reſpective counties, which courts ſhall ſit and be held for the ſaid county of *Dauphin*, on the third *Tueſdays* in the months of *February*, *May*, *Auguſt* and *November* yearly, for the diſpatch of the public buſineſs of the ſaid county."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Woods*, to fill up the blank in the foregoing clauſe, with the words "*near* Harris's *ferry*," whereupon,

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Hay* and Mr. *Humphreys*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *James Vanſant*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *William Coats*,
5. *Thomas Long*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Richard Willing*,
8. *Anthony Wayne*,
9. *Edward Jones*,
10. *Charles Humphreys*,
11. *James Porter*,
12. *David Jenkins*,
13. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
14. *Henry Miller*,
15. *John Hay*,
16. *Philip Gartner*,
17. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

18. *David M‘Conaughy*,
19. *Henry Tyſon*,
20. *Joſeph Lilly*,
21. *Frederick Watts*,
22. *John Harris*,
23. *Robert Whitehill*,
24. *David Davis*,
25. *George Woods*,
26. *Robert Cluggage*,
27. *Frederick Antes*,
28. *Daniel Montgomery*,
29. *William Finley*,
30. *Thomas Morton*,
31. *Matthew Ritchie*.
32. *John Smiley*,
33. *James Johnſton*,
34. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *William Will*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *Joſeph Thomas*,
6. *John Keller*,
7. *Robert Ralſton*,
8. *James Mercer*,
9. *John Craig*,
10. *Adam Orth*,
11. *William Stoey*,
12. *Robert Craig*,
13. *Robert Clark*,
14. *Peter Grubb*, junior,
15. *William Brown*,
16. *Nicholas Lutz*,

NAYS.

17. *Abraham Lincoln*,
18. *Henry Spyker*,
19. *Philip Kreemer*,
20. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
21. *Peter Burkhalter*,
22. *Robert Brown*,
23. *Jonas Hartzel*,
24. *John Ralſton*,
25. *Samuel Dale*,
26. *William Todd*,
27. *John M‘Dowell*,
28. *Abraham Smith*,
29. *James M‘Calmont*,
30. *Peter Richards*,
31. *Robert Loller*,
32. *George Smith*,

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Spyker* have leave of abſence until next *Monday* week.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *February* 26, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

GENTLEMEN,

WE have the pleaſure of informing you, that at a Treaty held laſt *October*, at *Fort-Stanwix*, with the *Six Nations*, called, *Mohocks*, *Oneidaes*, *Onondagoes*, *Cayugaes*, *Senecaes*, and *Tuſcaroraes*; and at another, held laſt *January*, at *Fort-Macintoſh*, with the two Nations, called, *Wyandots*, and *Delawares*, the Commiſſioners, on the part of this commonwealth, have purchaſed, from the ſaid *Indians*, all the territory within the acknowledged limits of the ſtate, that had not been before bought from them.

The minutes of theſe treaties, the deeds, and copies of our inſtructions, and ſeveral other papers relating to this buſineſs, will be delivered with this meſſage.

Theſe conveyances compleating the ſale of all the lands in this ſtate, thus, happily finiſhing the tranſactions of a century, on that ſubject; having been obtained at public treaties; agreeably to ancient cuſtom; with the approbation of the United States; the *Indians* acknowledging themſelves "kindly" and "generouſly" dealt with—declaring that "*Pennſylvania*, has never deceived or wronged them—and, thanking her, not only from their lips, but alſo from their hearts"—We are perſuaded, that ſuch a fair, equitable, and honorable confirmation of the public intereſt, in ſo very large and valuable a tract of country, muſt be exceedingly agreeable to the good people of *Pennſylvania*.

It is cauſe of additional ſatisfaction, that in accompliſhing this important object, a due regard has been had for the fœderal councils, and that a friendly correſpondence between the Continental Commiſſioners and our own, ſubſiſted throughout the treaties.

As we have every reaſon to believe, that the affections of the *Indians* are now conciliated, their confidence gained, and their former friendſhip reſtored, in ſuch a manner, that their preſent diſpoſitions may, by proper meaſures, be improved to great advantage. We hope, your honorable Houſe will judge their requeſts worthy of immediate attention.

We ſhould not do juſtice to the merit of our Commiſſioners, if we omitted to expreſs ourſelves very ſenſible of the ability, diligence, frugality, and fidelity, with which they have diſcharged the truſt repoſed in them.

JOHN DICKINSON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
PHILADELPHIA, *February* 24th, 1785.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter,* were read, praying the Market-houſe in *High-ſtreet,* within the city of *Philadelphia,* may not be further extended weſtward.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Remonſtrances from the inhabitants of *Germantown* and *Roxborough,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*;" and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Stephen Stevenſon,* was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe for that part of *Lancaſter* county, which is, by a bill publiſhed for conſideration, intended to be erected into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Harris,* was read, praying, in caſe a diviſion of the county of *Lancaſter* ſhould take place, that he may be appointed regiſter of wills, &c. and recorder of deeds in and for that part of the ſaid county, intended to be erected into a new one.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia,* and places adjacent, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*;" and praying this houſe to reviſe the laws for opening the Land Office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from a committee of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſtating that a further emiſſion of paper money, in proportion to its extent, would at this time be prejudicial to the commercial intereſts of the ſtate, and praying the ſame may not take effect.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Two memorials and petitions from divers freemen of the county of *York,* were read, praying the Market-houſe in *High-ſtreet,* in the city of *Philadelphia,* may not be extended further weſtward.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, *on the ſeveral petitions from* *divers inhabitants of the county of* Montgomery *praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from the neighbourhood of* Stony Run, was read the ſecond time

And on the queſtion " *Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution*, viz.

" *Reſolved*, That the prayer of the ſaid petitions cannot be granted."

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *G. Smith*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *John Keller,*
6. *Edward Jones,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *James Porter,*
9. *David Jenkins,*
10. *Robert Craig,*
11. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
12. *Henry Miller,*
13. *John Hay,*
14. *Philip Gartner,*
15. *James Ewing,*
16. *David M'Conaughy,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Joſeph Lilly,*
19. *John Harris,*
20. *William Brown,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*
22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *Abraham Lincoln,*
24. *Chriſtian Lower,*
25. *David Davis,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Peter Burkhalter,*
28. *Robert Brown,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *William Todd,*
32. *Thomas Morton,*
33. *Matthew Ritchie,*
34. *John M'Dowell,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *James Johnſton,*
37. *Abraham Smith,*
38. *James M'Calmont,*
39. *Peter Richards,*
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Joſeph Thomas,*
5. *Richard Willing,*
6. *Anthony Wayne,*
7. *Perſifor Frazer,*
8. *John Craig,*
9. *Adam Orth,*
10. *Robert Clark,*
11. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
12. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
13. *John Ralſton,*
14. *Frederick Antes,*
15. *William Finley,*
16. *Robert Lollor,*
17. *George Smith,*

So it was carried in the affirmative and the reſolution adopted.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill entitled, " *A ſupplement to the " acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares and merchandiſe imported, for ſecuring " more effectually the revenues ariſing from the ſame;*" was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs,*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Wayne*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *Thomas Long,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*

YEAS.

9, *John Keller*,
10. *Richard Willing*,
11. *Anthony Wayne*,
12. *Edward Jones*,
13. *Robert Ralſton*,
14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *Charles Humphreys*,
16. *Robert Craig*,
17. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
18. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
19. *Henry Miller*,
20. *John Hay*,
21. *Philip Gartner*,
22. *James Ewing*,
23. *David M'Conaughy*,
24. *Henry Tyſon*,
25. *Joſeph Lilly*,
26. *William Brown*,
27. *Nicholas Lutz*,
28. *Abraham Lincoln*,
29. *Chriſtian Lower*,
30. *David Davis*,
31. *Philip Kreemer*,
32. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
33. *Peter Burkhalter*,
34. *Robert Brown*,
35. *George Woods*,
36. *Robert Cluggage*.
37. *Matthew Ritchie*,
38. *James Johnſton*,
39. *Robert Loller*,
40. *George Smith*,
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *James Mercer*,
4. *John Craig*,
5. *Adam Orth*,
6. *James Porter*,
7. *William Stoey*,
8. *David Jenkins*,
9. *Robert Clark*,
10. *John Harris*,
11. *Robert Whitehill*,
12. *Jonas Hartzel*,
13. *John Ralſton*,
14. *Frederick Antes*,
15. *Daniel Montgomery*,
16. *Samuel Dale*,
17. *William Finley*,
18. *William Todd*,
19. *Thomas Morton*,
20. *John M'Dowell*,
21. *John Smiley*,
22. *Abraham Smith*,
23. *James M'Calmont*,
24. *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having thereupon been debated in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *February* 28, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Thomas Campbel*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 13 laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Leedom*, late a ſoldier in the ſixth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Wingate Newman*, *Philip Lyon*, and *Daniel Longſtreet*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Catharine Pennington*, was read, referring to her petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 6 laſt, and praying relief in the matters therein ſet forth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *George Schloſſer*, was read, ſetting forth, that in *June*, 1778, he advanced, to the public, the ſum of £2000, which was not repaid to him until *July*, 1779, when it had depreciated from 3 to 20 for one; and praying a certificate may be granted him for the loſs he ſuſtained thereon; repreſenting his ſituation as peculiarly diſtreſſing, owing to the numerous ſacrifices he has made of his property during the late war, for the ſervice of his country; and that the whole of his remaining property is veſted in the public funds.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *John M'Dowell*, *James Edgar*, and *Thomas Scott*, read *December* 19 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be refered to Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Finley*, and Mr. *Johnſton*, to report thereon.

The petitions of divers inhabitants reſiding in the weſtern parts of this ſtate, read *February* 12 and 23, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Orth*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *W. Brown*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, read *February* 8, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of ſuch perſons as have debts due to them, from the eſtates* "*of perſons attainted of treaſon, and confiſcated in the late war, and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Henry Willis, *with* "Mary, *his wife*;" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*A ſupplement to an act entitled*, "An act for the ſale "of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and pay-"ing off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of "the *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives; and for appropriating cer-"tain other lands therein mentioned, for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſol-"diers, to be divided off to them, ſeverally, at the end of the war," *ſo far as* "*the ſame reſpects the donation of lands comprized under the ſecond diviſion of the* "*ſaid act*; was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Woods*, and Mr. *Smiley*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*A ſupplement* "*to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares, and merchandiſe imported, for* "*ſecuring, more effectually, the revenues ariſing from the ſame*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion "*Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, vnd in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley*, and Mr. *Mercer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Richard Willing,*
12. *Anthony Wayne,*
13. *Edward Jones,*
14. *Robert Ralſton,*
15. *Perſifor Frazer,*
16. *Charles Humphreys,*
17. *William Stoey,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
21. *Henry Miller,*
22. *John Hay,*
23. *Philip Gartner,*

YEAS.

24. *James Ewing,*
25. *David M'Conaughy,*
26. *Henry Tyſon,*
27. *Joſeph Lilly,*
28. *Frederick Watts,*
29. *William Brown,*
30. *Nicholas Lutz,*
31. *Abraham Lincoln,*
32. *Chriſtian Lower,*
33. *David Davis,*
34. *Philip Kreemer,*
35. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
36. *Peter Burkhalter,*
37. *Robert Brown,*
38. *Jonas Hartzel,*
39. *George Woods,*
40. *Robert Cluggage,*
41. *Frederick Antes,*
42. *William Todd,*
43. *Matthew Ritchie,*
44. *James Johnſton.*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *James Mercer,*
3. *John Craig,*
4. *Adam Orth,*
5. *James Porter,*
6. *Robert Clark,*
7. *Robert Whitehill,*
8. *John Ralſton,*
9. *Daniel Montgomery,*

NAYS.

10. *Samuel Dale,*
11. *William Finley,*
12. *Thomas Morton,*
13. *John M'Dowell,*
14. *John Smiley,*
15. *Abraham Smith,*
16. *James M'Calmont,*
17. *Peter Richards.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill entitled, " *An act to extend the regulations made by an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* " An act declaring the river *Suſquehanna*, and other ſtreams therein mentioned, public highways, for improving the navigation of the ſame river and ſtreams; and preſerving the fiſh in the ſame;" *to the parts of the ſaid river below* Wright's Ferry; *and to appoint new Commiſſioners to enforce the ſame regulations*;" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 1, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice, in and for the ſaid county, may be removed from the town of *Sunbury* to the town of *Northumberland*.

And on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Erwin*, Mr. *J, Ralſton*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Dale* to report thereon.

The petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, read *February* 23, laſt, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Campbell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Clark*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *W. Brown* to report thereon.

A petition from *William Ziegeſar*, an inſolvent debtor confined in the Gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties* and diſtrict of *Southwark*, were read, praying the market-houſe in *High-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, may not be extended further weſtward.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freemen reſiding or holding real eſtates in *High-ſtreet*, between *Third* and *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating that the erecting a market in the ſaid ſtreet, will greatly affect their rights and deprive them of certain privileges granted and confirmed to them in common with other citizens, in the moſt ſolemn manner, and praying to be heard by their counſel, before the Houſe, in ſupport of their ſaid rights and privileges.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a motion reſpecting an allowance to the clerk and aſſiſtant clerk, for their ſervices during the receſs of this preſent Houſe, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Philip Shrawder*, read *November* 27, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hartzel*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Ritchie* to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards* "*paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding* "*and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate.*"

The petition of divers managers of the *Newark* lottery, &c. read *February* 18, laſt, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Montgomery* county to report thereon.

Two petitions from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, were read, praying the bill entitled, "*An act* "*for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the* "*debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the* "*public debts of this ſtate,*" as publiſhed for conſideration, may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that they have taken into conſideration the moſt eligible mode of conſtructing a bridge over the river *Schuylkill*, at the end of *High-ſtreet*, and are of opinion that a chain bridge is not only very practicable, but will be the cheapeſt in the execution, the moſt durable when compleated and will be of the leaſt interruption to the navigation of the river, as well as the leaſt liable to injury from ice; that they have alſo prepared a plan for defraying the expences of the erection, and in a ſhort time rendering it a free bridge without any burthen to the public, and praying leave to bring in a bill to incorporate them in the manner and for the purpoſes mentioned in certain propoſals to the ſaid petition annexed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Kearſley*, was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe, in and for that part of *Lancaſter* county intended to be erected into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and memorial from the ſaid S*amuel Kearſley*, late a captain in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 25, laſt, on the petition of *Robert Montgomery*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council of the 9th day of *February* laſt, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive* " *Council of this Commonwealth, to appoint all officers civil and military, except* " *in the caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution to the General Aſſembly, and to the people; and to repeal the laws, whereby certain officers have been appointed con-* " *trary thereto; and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller General, by a* " *commiſſion for ſeven years, and a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good* " *behaviour only*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next.

The bill entitled, "*An act concerning divorces and alimony*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*An act to enlarge the ſummary juriſdiction of the Juſtic-* " *es of the Peace, in actions of debt or demand, to ſums not exceeding ten pounds;* " *and to declare demands for ſpirituous liquors, delivered in ſmall quantities, not* " *recoverable; and to repeal an act, entitled*, "A ſupplement to an act for the " more eaſy and ſpeedy recovery of ſmall debts;" was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the better regulation of Juries*;" was read the third time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"*And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That, when any verdict, in any civil action or cauſe, ſhall be taken, the plaintiff or defendant for whom the ſame ſhall be given, ſhall forthwith pay, to the Prothonotary, or Clerk of the Court, thirty ſhillings, which ſhall be taxed with the coſts, and afterwards repaid by the party againſt whom ſuch verdict ſhall be given, if the ſame be a verdict wherein coſts be recoverable, for the uſe of the party ſo advancing that ſum, and the money ſo to be collected, together with the fines upon the perſons who ſhall be ſummoned as jurors, and who may make default, ſhall be a fund towards paying the expences of the juries who ſhall attend on the ſaid courts reſpectively; and if the ſame prove deficient, the Prothonotary or Clerk of the reſpective court, is hereby authoriſed and required to make an order, to be approved and ſigned by the Judge or Juſtice who ſhall preſide in ſuch courts, in favour of each Juror, for ſuch balance as may be due for his attendance or ſervice aforeſaid, on the Treaſurer of the county, who is hereby required to pay the ſame; each Juror, whether Grand-Juror, or Petty-Juror, as well upon ſpecial as common juries, to be allowed, for every day he ſhall attend or ſerve as aforeſaid, five ſhillings, and no more, and proviſion ſhall accordingly be made, in eſtimating and laying the county rates in the ſeveral counties of this ſtate."

It was moved by Mr. *Miller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lilly*, "to ſtrike out the aforeſaid clauſe," whereupon,

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*

YEAS.

8. *David M‘Conaughy,*
9. *Joſeph Lilly,*
10. *Frederick Watts,*
11. *William Brown,*
12. *Daniel Montgomery,*
13. *William Todd,*
14. *James M‘Calmont,*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*
11. *James Mercer,*
12. *John Craig,*
13. *Adam Orth,*
14. *Samuel Boyd,*
15. *James Porter,*
16. *William Stoey,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Craig,*
19. *Robert Clark,*
20. *James Ewing,*
21. *Henry Tyſon,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*

NAYS.

23. *Nicholas Lutz,*
24. *Abraham Lincoln,*
25. *Chriſtian Lower,*
26. *David Davis,*
27. *Philip Kreemer,*
28. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29. *Peter Burkhalter,*
30. *Robert Brown,*
31. *Jonas Hartzel,*
32. *John Ralſton,*
33. *Frederick Antes,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *Thomas Morton,*
37. *Matthew Ritchie.*
38. *John M‘Dowell,*
39. *John Smiley,*
40. *James Johnſton,*
41. *Abraham Smith,*
42. *Robert Loller,*
43. *George Smith,*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The committee appointed, *February* 23 laſt, on the petition of *Maurice Derdeven*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 2, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition from the burgeſſes and inhabitants of the borough of *Lancaſter*, read *December* 21, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *Grubb* and Mr. *Miller*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the State of *Pennſylvania*, was read, ſtating that the Poſt Maſter General of the United States, upon a repreſentation to him made for that purpoſe, is willing and deſirous of eſtabliſhing a poſt to ride from this city to *Pittſburg*, on condition that this ſtate pay the deficiencies that may ariſe in the portage of the letters, &c. and praying this Houſe to encourage ſo laudable a deſign.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jonathan Plumer*, was read, ſetting forth, that he is indebted in divers ſums of money which he is at this time wholly unable to pay, and praying this Houſe to grant him a ſum of money to diſcharge his ſaid debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Thomas Campbell*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report, in part, of the committee, read yeſterday, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, of the 9th day of *February* laſt, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, more effectually to enable Council to oblige the Commiſſioners of counties to compel the diſtrict collectors to perform the duties enjoined on them by law, and alſo to empower the Comptroller General, to call to account the ſeveral county treaſurers in this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee for that purpoſe.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for* "*erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county*;" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſeat of juſtice in the ſaid county of *Dauphin*, ſhall be agreed upon and choſen by or by in ſuch manner as to remove inconveniencies, and prevent expence with reſpect to the diſtance of the people's habitations from the ſeat of juſtice, as much as poſſible, and on ſuch a ſpot and place as will be moſt eligible and convenient for the accommodation of thoſe that are to attend at court."

On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſaid clauſe be ſtruck out*?"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Woods*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *Richard Willing,*
11. *Anthony Wayne,*
12. *Edward Jones,*
13. *Robert Ralſton,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *Charles Humphreys,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Peter Grubb,* Jun.
19. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
20. *Henry Miller,*
21. *John Hay,*
22. *Philip Gartner,*
23. *James Ewing,*
24. *David M‘Conaughy,*
25. *Henry Tyſon,*
26. *Joſeph Lilly,*
27. *Frederick Watts,*
28. *John Harris,*
29. *Robert Whitehill,*
30. *David Davis,*
31. *Peter Burkhalter,*
32. *Robert Brown,*
33. *George Woods,*
34. *Robert Cluggage,*
35. *Frederick Antes,*
36. *Daniel Montgomery,*
37. *William Finley,*
38. *Thomas Morton,*
39. *Matthew Ritchie,*
40. *John Smiley,*
41. *James Johnſton.*
42. *Abraham Smith,*
43. *James M‘Calmont,*
44. *Peter Richards.*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith.*
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys,*
2. *James Mercer,*
3. *John Craig,*
4. *Adam Orth,*
5. *Samuel Boyd,*
6. *William Stoey,*
7. *Robert Craig,*
8. *Robert Clark,*
9. *William Brown,*
10. *Nicholas Lutz,*
11. *Abraham Lincoln,*
12. *Philip Kreemer,*
13. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14. *Jonas Hartzel,*
15. *John Ralſton,*
16. *Samuel Dale,*
17. *William Todd,*
18. *John M‘Dowell,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law;*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *Mercer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Richard Willing,*
10. *Anthony Wayne,*
11. *Edward Jones,*
12. *Robert Ralſton,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *Charles Humphreys,*

YEAS.

15. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
16. *Henry Miller,*
17. *John Hay,*
18. *Philip Gartner,*
19. *James Ewing,*
20. *David M‘Conaughy,*
21. *Henry Tyſon,*
22. *Joſeph Lilly,*
23. *Frederick Watts,*
24. *John Harris,*
25. *Robert Whitehill,*
26. *David Davis,*
27. *Peter Burkhalter,*
28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *George Woods,*
30. *Robert Cluggage,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *William Finley,*
34. *Thomas Morton,*
35. *Matthew Ritchie,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Joſeph Thomas,*
4. *James Mercer,*
5. *John Craig,*
6. *Adam Orth,*
7. *Samuel Boyd,*
8. *James Porter,*
9. *William Stoey,*
10. *David Jenkins,*
11. *Robert Craig,*
12. *Robert Clark,*
14. *William Brown,*
13. *Peter Grubb,* jun.
15. *Nicholas Lutz,*
16. *Abraham Lincoln,*
17. *Philip Kreemer,*
18. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
19. *Robert Brown,*
20. *John Ralſton,*
21. *Samuel Dale,*
22. *William Todd,*
23. *John M‘Dowell,*
24. *Abraham Smith,*
25. *James M‘Calmont,*
26. *Peter Richards,*
27. *Robert Lollor.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 3, 1785, A. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the committee appointed, on the accounts of *James Searle,* Eſquire, be inſtructed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, touching the ſaid accounts.

A memorial from the Commiſſioners for clearing the river *Schulykill,* was read, ſetting forth, that the acts for the preſervation of the fiſh within the ſaid river, are expired, and the ſeaſon for taking of fiſh approaching, therefore, praying this Houſe, to revive the ſaid acts, with ſuch amendments as are ſuggeſted in the ſaid memorial.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Divers memorials and petitions, from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the act for removing the courts of juſtice within the ſaid county; and praying they may be heard before this Houſe, or a committee thereof, and the ſaid act ſuſpended or repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from a number of the inhabitants weſtward of the *Allegheny* mountain, read *February* 18 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *J. Clark*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *Ewing*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Mewhorter*, Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, and Mr. *Richards*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *February* 22 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Ritchie*, and Mr. *M'Dowell*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed, *March* 1, on the petition of divers managers of the *Newark* lottery, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive Council of this Commonwealth, to appoint all officers civil and military, except in caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution, to the General Aſſembly, and to the people; and to repeal the laws whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto; and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller General, by a commiſſion for ſeven years, and a permanent ſalery, upon condition of his good behaviour, only*;" and in debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

"Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and it is declared and enacted by the authority of the ſame, That the choice of the Speaker of the Houſe, Clerks and other officers and ſervants of the ſame, proper and befitting to the General Aſſembly, as a legiſlative body, the Delegates to repreſent this State in Congreſs, the Treaſurer of the State, Regiſters of Wills and for granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and the Recorders of Deeds; and a concurrency of votes, with the members of the Supreme Executive Council, in the election of the Preſident and Vice Preſident of Council, as mentioned in the Conſtitution of this State, are and ſhall be carefully reſerved to the General Aſſembly, for the time being, and that all other officers neceſſary to the execution of the laws of this Commonwealth (ſuch as are ſpecially reſerved to the choice of the people, or plainly directed by the Conſtitution to be otherwiſe choſen and appointed, only excepted) ſhall be deemed and taken to be, and the ſame are, accordingly, by this act, declared to be in the nomination and appointment of the Executive Council, ſubject, however, to the times and manner of holding the ſame, which the Conſtitution and laws, do or ſhall preſcribe.

It was moved by Mr. *Moore*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, to inſert, after the words "*Recorders of Deeds*" the words "*Truſtees of the Loan Office, Collectors of Exciſe, and Inſpector of flour*," whereupon,

An amendment to the amendment, was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ewing*, to add, after the words "*Inſpector of flour*," the words "*and all other revenue officers*," and

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid additional amendment?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,

YEAS.

6. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
7. *Henry Miller*,
8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

11. *David M‘Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *William Brown,*
15. *Nicholas Lutz,*
16. *Abraham Lincoln,*
17. *Chriſtian Lower,*
18. *David Davis,*
19. *Philip Kreemer,*
20. *George Woods,*
21. *Robert Cluggage.*
22. *Matthew Ritchie,*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *Elias Boys,*
7. *James Vanſant,*
8. *Manuel Eyre,*
9. *William Coats,*
10. *Thomas Long,*
11. *John Clark,*
12. *Joſeph Thomas,*
13. *John Keller,*
14. *Arthur Erwin,*
15. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
16. *Perſifor Frazer,*
17. *James Mercer,*
18. *John Craig,*
19. *Adam Orth,*
20. *Samuel Boyd,*
21. *James Porter,*
22. *David Jenkins,*
23. *Robert Craig,*
24. *Robert Clark,*
25. *Frederick Watts,*
26. *John Harris,*
27. *Robert Whitehill,*
28. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29. *Peter Burkhalter,*
30. *Robert Brown,*
31. *Jonas Hartzel,*
32. *John Ralſton,*
33. *Frederick Antes,*
34. *Daniel Montgomery,*
35. *Samuel Dale,*
36. *William Finley,*
37. *Thomas Morton,*
38. *John M‘Dowell,*
39. *John Smiley,*
40. *James Johnſton,*
41. *Abraham Smith,*
42. *James M‘Calmont,*
43. *Peter Richards.*
44. *Robert Loller,*
45. *George Smith,*
46. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Whereupon, On the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe adopt the original amendment?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *John Keller,*
7. *Richard Willing,*
8. *Anthony Wayne,*
9. *Edward Jones,*
10. *Robert Ralſton,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *Charles Humphreys,*
14. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
15. *Henry Miller,*
16. *John Hay,*
17. *Philip Gartner,*
18. *James Ewing,*
19. *David M‘Conaughy,*
20. *Henry Tyſon,*
21. *Joſeph Lilly,*
22. *Frederick Watts,*
23. *William Brown,*
24. *Nicholas Lutz,*

YEAS.

25. *Abraham Lincoln,*
26. *Chriſtian Lower,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Philip Kreemer,*
29. *Peter Burkhalter,*
30. *Robert Brown,*
31. *Jonas Hartzel,*
32. *George Woods,*
33. *Robert Cluggage,*
34. *Matthew Ritchie,*
35. *James M'Calmont.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *Thomas Long,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *James Mercer,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *Samuel Boyd,*
13. *James Porter,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert Craig,*
16. *Robert Clark,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
20. *John Ralſton,*
21. *Frederick Antes,*
22. *Daniel Montgomery,*
23. *Samuel Dale,*
24. *William Finley,*
25. *Thomas Morton,*
26. *John M'Dowell,*
27. *John Smiley,*
28. *James Johnſton,*
29. *Abraham Smith,*
30. *Peter Richards,*
31. *Robert Loller,*
32. *George Smith,*
33. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the original amendment adopted; thereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid clauſe be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the clauſe poſtponed this forenoon, and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne,* ſeconded by Mr. *Ewing,* to inſert after the words "*Inſpector of flour,*" the words "*Collectors of Impoſts, Cuſtoms and "Tonnage, and Vendue Maſters.*"

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment.*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Pherſon* and Mr. *Smiley,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *William Stoey,*
7. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
8. *Henry Miller,*
9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *James Ewing,*
12. *David M'Conaughy,*
13. *Henry Tyſon,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *William Brown,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*

YEAS.

17. *Abraham Lincoln,*
18. *Chriſtian Lower,*
19. *David Davis,*
20. *George Woods,*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *John Keller,*
12. *Arthur Erwin,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *James Mercer,*
16. *John Craig,*
17. *Adam Orth,*
18. *Samuel Boyd,*
19. *James Porter,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Craig,*
22. *Robert Clark,*
23. *Frederick Watts,*

YEAS.

21. *Robert Cluggage.*
22. *William Todd,*
23. *Matthew Ritchie,*

NAYS.

24. *John Harris,*
25. *Robert Whitehill,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*
29. *Robert Brown,*
30. *Jonas Hartzel,*
31. *John Ralſton,*
32. *Frederick Antes,*
33. *Daniel Montgomery,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *Thomas Morton,*
37. *John M'Dowell,*
38. *John Smiley,*
39. *James Johnſton,*
40. *Abraham Smith,*
41. *James M'Calmont,*
42. *Peter Richards.*
43. *Robert Loller,*
44. *George Smith,*
45. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Whereupon, On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid clauſe with* "*the original amendment adopted this forenoon?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Ewing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *John Keller,*
12. *Arthur Erwin,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*

YEAS.

15. *James Mercer,*
16. *John Craig,*
17. *Adam Orth,*
18. *Samuel Boyd,*
19. *James Porter,*
20. *William Stoey,*
21. *David Jenkins,*
22. *Robert Craig,*
23. *Robert Clark,*
24. *Frederick Watts,*
25. *Robert Whitehill,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*

YEAS.

29. *Robert Brown,*
30. *Jonas Hartzel,*
31. *John Ralſton,*
32. *Frederick Antes,*
33. *Daniel Montgomery,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *Thomas Morton,*
37. *John M'Dowell,*

YEAS.

38. *John Smiley,*
39. *James Johnſton.*
40. *Abraham Smith,*
41. *James M'Calmont,*
42. *Peter Richards.*
43. *Robert Loller,*
44. *George Smith.*
45. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
7. *Henry Miller,*
8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *James Ewing,*
11. *David M'Conaughy,*

NAYS.

12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *William Brown,*
15. *Nicholas Lutz,*
16. *Abraham Lincoln,*
17. *Chriſtian Lower,*
18. *David Davis,*
19. *George Woods,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *William Todd,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie,*

So it was determined in the affirmative and the clauſe with the original amendment adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

And whereas, divers officers of this Commonwealth, do hold their reſpective offices, by having their names inſerted in the body of the acts of Aſſembly, whereby the ſame officers have been conſtituted, or by virtue of other acts of Aſſembly concerning the ſame, and the ſaid acts have been enacted in derogation of the rights of the Executive Council, and the manner in which the ſaid perſons do hold their ſaid offices, is deemed improper: Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the act of Aſſembly, entitled, "An act for methodiſing the department of accounts of this Commonwealth, and for the more effectual ſettlement of the ſame," enacted on the 13th day of *April*, 1782, ſo far as the ſame act appoints *John Nicholſon* to that office, and ſo far as the ſame act limits the ſalary of the Comptroller General of this Commonwealth to the ſum of £500 per annum;" and that the act of Aſſembly, entitled, "An act to revive and continue in force the acts of Aſſembly, regulating ſales by auction, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," enacted on the 19th day of *December*, 1783, ſo far as it authoriſed the then Houſe of Aſſembly to appoint the ſeveral auctioneers of the city of *Philadelphia*, and of the *Northern Liberties* of the ſaid city, and of the diſtrict of *Southwark* in the county of *Philadelphia*, and that the act of Aſſembly entitled, "An act for the further regulation of the port of *Philadelphia*, and enlarging the power of the wardens thereof," ſo far as the act nominates and appoints *Francis Gurney*, *John Donaldſon*, *Samuel Caldwell*, *Thomas Prior*, *George Ord*, *Nathaniel Falconer* and *John Hazzlewood*, wardens of the ſaid port, and *Jacob S. Howell* to be collector of the duties and ſums of money which may be due and payable for the tonnage on all ſhips and veſſels, which may be chargeable therewith; and all other acts of Aſſembly which derogate from the rights and privileges of the Executive Council, declared as aforeſaid, in nominating and appointing to offices, as far as they derogate therefrom, and no farther, ſhall be and the ſame are hereby repealed, annulled and made void.

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Frazer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *James Mercer,*
14. *John Craig,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *William Stoey,*
18. *David Jenkins.*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Frederick Watts,*

YEAS.

21. *John Harris,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*
23. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Jonas Hartzel,*
26. *John Ralſton,*
27. *Frederick Antes,*
28. *Daniel Montgomery,*
29. *Samuel Dale,*
30. *William Finley,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *John M‘Dowell,*
33. *John Smiley,*
34. *James Johnſton,*
35. *Abraham Smith,*
36. *James M‘Calmont,*
37. *Robert Loller.*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *John Keller,*
2. *Richard Willing,*
3. *Anthony Wayne,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
8. *Henry Miller,*
9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *James Ewing,*
12. *David M‘Conaughy,*
13. *Henry Tyſon,*

NAYS.

14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *William Brown,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*
17. *Abraham Lincoln,*
18. *Chriſtian Lower,*
19. *David Davis,*
20. *Philip Kreemer,*
21. *Robert Brown,*
22. *George Woods,*
23. *Robert Cluggage,*
24. *William Todd,*
25. *Matthew Ritchie,*
26. *Peter Richards,*

So it was determined in the affirmative and the clauſe adopted.

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 4, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Bertleſs Shee* and *Robert Roſs*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the

the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *March* 2, on the petition of *Thomas Campbell*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby empowered and requeſted to draw on the Treaſurer of the State, in favour of captain *Thomas Campbell*, for the ſum of one hundred and ten pounds, for his immediate relief, he to be accountable.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, “ *An* “ *act to ſuſpend an act of the General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, entitled,* “ A ſupplement to an act entitled, “ An act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkead*, *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and *Joſeph* “ *Davis*, to build a new Court-Houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, “ and ſell the old Court-Houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Joſeph Montgomery*, eſquire, *John Thome* and *John Joſeph* [illegible]*y*, were read, ſeverally, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, &c. [illegible] Recorder of Deeds in and for that part of *Lancaſter* county intended to [illegible]ed into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

[illegible]etition from *Anthony M'Creight*, was read, praying to be appointed [illegible]tor of Exciſe, in and for that part of *Lancaſter* county intended to be [illegible]d into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

[illegible] number of petitions and remonſtrances from the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* and its adjacencies, were read, remonſtrating againſt the act [illegible]led, “ *An act to alter and amend an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* “ An act for [illegible]pening the Land Office, for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate;” and againſt the bill entitled, “ *An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the* “ *debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the pub-* “ *lic debts of this ſtate*;” and praying that the former may be amended and the latter not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Bright*, was read, praying to be re-appointed Inſpector of Flour, for the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, reſiding near the line of *Northumberland* county, was read, ſetting forth, that the cruelties exerciſed upon the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, by a perſon who ſtiles himſelf colonel and leader of a banditti at *Wyoming*, are inſupportable by a free and independent people, and praying this houſe to adopt ſuch meaſures as will tend to reſtore civil government to that part of the State.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jane Bartram*, was read, ſetting forth, that her huſband *Alexander Bartram* joined the *Britiſh* forces and departed with them, without leaving a maintenance or ſupport for her and her ſon, and previouſly to his deſertion uſed her very cruelly; and praying leave to bring in a bill to divorce her from her ſaid huſband.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Two petitions from divers non-jurors reſiding in the county of *Lancaſter*, were read, praying to be reſtored to the rights of citizenſhip.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *George Wright*, a major of the militia of *Montgomery* county, was read, ſetting forth, that in 1778 he was taken priſoner, and continued in captivity until *September*, 1781; that during his captivity he received from the Commiſſary of Priſoners the ſum of thirty pounds towards his ſupport, for which ſum he is now ſued; and ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation, therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Newtown* to *Doyle's-town*, were read, together with the ſeveral ſubſcription papers accompanying the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Church-Warderns, Veſtry-Men and members of the congregation of the Epiſcopal Church of St. *John's* in *Pequea*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *February* 21, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders, Deacons and others of the *Lutheran* Church of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 22, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the borough of *Briſtol*, in the county of *Bucks*, read *February* 22, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Thomas Norton*, read *February* 14, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Engle* Mr. *Long* and Mr. *Mercer*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 23, laſt, on the petition of lieutenant colonel *James Moore*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act for directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands promiſed to the* "*troops of this Commonwealth, and for ſettling the accounts of cloathing of of*"*ficers of the* Pennſylvania *line, and for payment of deficiencies*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to au*"*thoriſe the holding of priſoners arreſted within the county of* Montgomery, *for* "*debts and offences, in the gaol and work-houſe of the county of* Philadelphia, "*until a priſon ſhall be erected within the county of* Montgomery;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A letter from the Secretary of the Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, encloſing ſundry papers from Congreſs, which were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The memorial of *Francis Murray*, read *December* 15, laſt, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Woods* to report thereon.

The petition of *Samuel Kearſley*, read *March* 1, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Morton* and Mr. *Ritchie* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, read *February* 25, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Lancaſter* county to report thereon.

The petition of divers freemen, inhabitants of the lower parts of *Lancaſter* county, read *February* 22, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Lancaſter* county to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 2, on the petition of the burgeſſes and inhabitants of the borough of *Lancaſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair, a motion, which was read as follows, *viz.*

“ Whereas the laſt ſeſſion of the eighth General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, was broken up in a haſty manner, by the ſeceſſion of a number of the members: this houſe conceive it to be their duty to ſtate on their minutes the following facts and obſervations, leſt on one hand this tranſaction ſhall be drawn into a precedent on ſome leſs important occaſion; or on the other hand from too rigid an adherence to form, or from timidity in the repreſentatives of a free people, meaſures may be carried in a thin Houſe, at the moment of cloſing a ſeſſion, injurious to their rights and ſubverſive of the Conſtitution.

“ *July* 30th the Houſe met.

“ *September* 15th, Petitions from a few inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were preſented to the Houſe, praying the teſt law may be reviſed.

“ *September* 16th, was read the ſecond time and referred to a committee.

“ 23d, This committee made a report, which was read, and on motion and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time, and reſolved to go into a committee of the whole next day.

“ *September* 24th, The chairman of the committee of the whole made report which was read; and on the queſtion, will the Houſe take up the ſaid report by ſpecial order, for a ſecond reading? the Yeas and Nays being called, and carried in the negative.

“ *September* 25th, The Houſe adopted the report of the whole, and appointed a committee for the purpoſe of bringing in a bill—The committee report a bill, entitled, “ A further ſupplement to the teſt laws.”

“ *Monday*, *September* 27th, Bill was read the ſecond time, ordered to be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

“ *Tueſday*, 28th, Motion for taking up the bill for the third reading, on which the Yeas and Nays were called; Yeas, 25. Nays, 25.

“ *Wedneſday*, 29th, No Houſe—Reſolve to appoint a committee.—Met again—ordered that 400 copies of an addreſs to the people, be printed.

“ From the facts thus ſtated, this Houſe cannot avoid expreſſing their great concern, that the meaſure of diſcriminating between thoſe who reſcued this happy country from oppreſſion and ſlavery, and thoſe who refuſed even to declare

clare they took a general common intereſt in it, was with ſuch precipitance attempted to be hurried through the Houſe. A meaſure calculated to give the right of citizenſhip, to many whoſe rancour and enmity to our independence, and attachment to the *Britiſh* intereſt, are not abated, and which had been almoſt unanimouſly rejected a few months before. We regret that the repreſentatives of the freemen of the ſtate, not being more than one third, ſhould endanger the public peace, by purſuing a line of conduct ſo obnoxious to their conſtituents, that they ſhould attempt to continue the exerciſe of their powers as a Houſe, and the ſtile of legiſlation by meeting again and again, appointing a committee, diſpoſing of the public money in orders, to print their papers addreſſing the good people of the ſtate.

" We do therefore think it our duty to declare, that ſuch their proceedings were unathoriſed, illegal, and unconſtitutional; that the entries made after the Houſe was diſſolved, cannot and ought not to be conſidered as any part of the proceedings of the legiſlature of this ſtate: and in juſtice to the character and feelings of a reſpectable part of the then repreſentatives of the people, to order to be inſerted on the minutes of this ſeſſion, the following proteſt, which was offered and received in a full Houſe, but which has been ſuppreſſed from the printed minutes, and even abſtracted ſurreptitiouſly from the files of that ſeſſion: This we do, that the good people of this State may have full information, and be enabled, at this or any future time, to judge fully and impartially of the merits or demerits of this tranſaction."

Reaſons of Diſſent.

Firſt, FOR that we conceive it to be a dictate of reaſon and natural equity, that thoſe who declined to participate in the toils, the ſacrifices, and the hazard of the late revolution, ſhould not enjoy all the benefit and advantages ariſing from that ineſtimable bleſſing.

Secondly, Such are the numbers of thoſe, who from motives of timidity, avarice, or attachment to the cauſe of *Britiſh* tyranny, refuſed to enroll their names in the honourable liſt of patriots, at the ſeaſon of war and danger, that in ſeveral of the principal counties of the State, ſhould the meaſure in contemplation take effect, elections might reaſonably be expected to be carried in favour of men who execrated the alliance of the United States with his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and ſtill cheriſh the hope of a ſubordinate re-union with *Great-Britain*. And we are convinced no men ſhould rule a ſociety which they wiſh to deſtroy.

Thirdly, The Conſtitution has expreſſly provided, that " All bills of a public nature ſhall be printed for the conſideration of the people, and except on occaſions of ſudden neceſſity, ſhall not be paſſed into laws, until the next ſeſſion of Aſſembly." No ſudden neceſſity exiſts on the preſent occaſion; on the contrary, in a few days a new Aſſembly will be convened, furniſhed with the inſtructions of the people at large. Nor can we conceive other motives for the precipitancy with which it is attempted to finiſh the bill referred to, and to paſs it into a law, at the end of a ſeſſions, in a thin Houſe, conſiſting of but a few more than a quorum, than ſuch as originate in faction, party views, and ſelfiſh conſiderations.

Impreſſed with a deep ſenſe of the important conſequences of the preſent meaſures to ourſelves, our conſtituents, and poſterity; our apprehenſions ſtill further confirmed by the proceeding on the petition of Dr. *William Smith*, and the late truſtees of the college, academy, and charitable ſchool in the city of *Philadelphia*, &c. and that an inſidious petition from the late proprietaries, wrote with an apparent deſign to reconcile the minds of the people to the reſtoration of their property, if not to place the government again in their hands, has been reſpectfully noticed in this Houſe and committed, obſerving a myſterious perſeverance in the majority, relying on ſuperiority of numbers, diſdaining to meet in the fair field of reaſon and argument, and treating all obſervation upon the above mentioned points as ſuperfluous, and inſinuating that every member had fully made up his mind upon the ſubject, and was no longer open to conviction, recollecting at the ſame time that the conſtitution has wiſely provided as a check, in a caſe of a deſperate nature, that the minority may prevent the miſchief to the commonwealth that may at any time be feared from a majority, by a ſeceſſion. And firmly believing that our conſtituents, at the time of our aſſembling, held in abhorrence, and would have conſidered as the worſt of injuries, and the extreme of degradation, the alteration in our political ſyſtem about to be adopted, by the repeal of the teſt laws. In a matter thus particularly intereſting to all the true friends of the late glorious revolution, we ſhould be undeſerving the confidence and reſpect of the good people of the ſtate, if we did not adopt every conſtitutional meaſure in our power, to prevent thoſe evils and that confuſion which we believe would be the inevitable reſult of a further continuance in this houſe: to your artful and myſterious meaſures, to that ſecret influence, of which we ſee the effects, but are unable to comprehend the cauſe, we leave you: to our conſtituents, and to the community at large, we make the ſolemn appeal; they will determine to whoſe impropriety of conduct is imputable this premature diſſolution of the legiſlature.

William Todd,
Richard Wallace,
Frederick Antes,
Frederick Watts,
James Mercer,
John Clark,
Thomas Long,
Joſeph Thomas,
Joſeph Savitz,
Jacob Stroud,
Robert Brown,
William Brown,
John Craig,
Adam Orth,
Moſes M'Lean,
David Thomas,
William Brown, Cumb.
James Johnſton,
Abraham Smith."

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſaid motion lie on the table?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Anthony Wayne*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,

YEAS.

14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,
19. *James Porter*,
20. *William Stoey*,
21. *David Jenkins*.
22. *Robert Craig*,
23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
25. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
26. *Frederick Watts*,

YEAS.

27. *William Brown,*
28. *Robert Whitehill,*
29. *Nicholas Lutz,*
30. *Abraham Lincoln,*
31. *Chriſtian Lower,*
32. *David Davis,*
33. *Philip Kreemer,*
34. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
35. *Peter Burkhalter,*
36. *Robert Brown,*
37. *Jonas Hartzel,*
38. *John Ralſton,*
39. *George Woods,*
40. *Frederick Antes,*
41. *Daniel Montgomery,*

YEAS.

42. *Samuel Dale,*
43. *William Finley,*
44. *William Todd,*
45. *Thomas Morton,*
46. *Matthew Ritchie,*
47. *John M'Dowell,*
48. *John Smiley,*
49. *James Johnſton,*
50. *Abraham Smith,*
51. *James M'Calmont,*
52. *Peter Richards,*
53. *Robert Loller.*
54. *George Smith,*
55. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *James Ewing,*
9. *David M'Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *Robert Cluggage,*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An act to provide further regulations, whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land Office and in the ſurveying of lands,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was recommitted, the bill entitled, "*An act to extend the regulations made by an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* "An act declaring the river *Suſquehanna*, and other ſtreams therein mentioned, public high-ways, for improving the navigation of the ſame river and ſtreams; and preſerving the fiſh in the ſame," *to the parts of the ſaid river below* Wrights-Ferry; *and to appoint new Commiſſioners to inforce the ſame*;" reported a bill, entitled, "*An act to authoriſe the appointment of new Commiſſioners, to execute the act of Aſſembly, entitled,* "An act declaring the river *Suſquehanna*, and other ſtreams therein named, publick highways; for improving the navigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams; and for preſerving the fiſh in the ſame;" *and to extend the powers of the ſaid Commiſſioners to all parts of the ſame river within this ſtate*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter, *into a ſeparate county*;" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, and

On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Mercer*, and Mr. *Orth*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *Thomas Long*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Arthur Erwin*,
9. *Richard Willing*,
10. *Anthony Wayne*,
11. *Edward Jones*,
12. *Robert Ralſton*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Percifor Frazer*,
15. *Charles Humphreys*,
16. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
17. *Henry Miller*,
18. *Philip Gartner*,
19. *James Ewing*,
20. *David M'Conaughy*,
21. *Henry Tyſon*,
22. *Joſeph Lilly*,
23. *Frederick Watts*,
24. *John Harris*,
25. *Robert Whitehill*,
26. *David Davis*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *George Woods*,
30. *Robert Cluggage*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Daniel Montgomery*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *William Todd*,
35. *Thomas Morton*,
36. *Matthew Ritchie*,
37. *John Smiley*,
38. *James Johnſton*,
39. *George Smith*,
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Joſeph Thomas*,
4. *John Keller*,
5. *James Mercer*,
6. *John Craig*,
7. *Adam Orth*,
8. *Samuel Boyd*,
9. *James Porter*,
10. *William Stoey*,
11. *David Jenkins*,
12. *Robert Craig*,
13. *Robert Clark*,
14. *Peter Grubb*, Jun.
15. *William Brown*,
16. *Nicholas Lutz*,
17. *Abraham Lincoln*,
18. *Philip*, *Kreemer*,
19. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
20. *Robert Brown*,
21. *John Ralſton*,
22. *Samuel Dale*,
23. *John M'Dowell*,
24. *Abraham Smith*,
25. *James M'Calmont*.
26. *Peter Richards*,
27. *Robert Loller*,

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

A letter from the Secretary of the Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, encloſing ſundry papers tranſmitted by Congreſs, which were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 5, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a committee of many citizens and public creditors, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, referring to their former memorials, read *Auguſt* 24 and *December* 4 laſt, and praying the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts* " *of*

" *of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts* " *of this State;*" may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and memorial from a committee of a numerous meeting of the public creditors of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating, that a great number of the citizens of this State, during the late conteſt with *Great-Britain*, were willing to riſk their lives and property upon the event of the war; firmly truſting, that in caſe of ſucceſs, ſuch principles would be adopted which govern independent nations, and that public credit might be firmly relied upon; that ſome have advanced their money, ſome have furniſhed ſupplies for public uſe, and many have ſerved in the field, who have received certificates for their property, and ſervices: And many of thoſe who have received ſuch certificates, by the inability or neglect of the public councils to provide proper funds for their redemption, have been reduced to the neceſſity of transferring their ſecurities.

That former committees of ſaid creditors, have repeatedly addreſſed the honourable Houſe, upon the great hardſhips and ſufferings which they have endured from the unhappy neglect of providing funds for the regular diſcharge of their intereſt—Referring to thoſe petitions, they offer additional reaſons, drawn from the conſideration of the public good, honour, and ſafety, which, in this buſineſs, is deeply involved with their concerns—That public credit is of ineſtimable value, and ought not to be put in competition with the greateſt treaſures—that a country without it is not on an equality with others who maintain it, and would become a prey to the firſt invader; and praying the Houſe to perſevere in ſuch meaſures as may be beſt calculated for relieving the diſtreſſes of the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, who have had the honour and the misfortune to become public creditors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing the quota* " *of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United* " *States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this* " *State;*" as publiſhed for conſideration, may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of* " *the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts* " *of this State;*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe having received an invitation to attend the funeral of the honourable *Joſeph Reed*, eſquire, deceaſed, *late a delegate repreſenting this State in the Congreſs of the United States, and formerly Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council of this Commonwealth*, to-morrow, at 5 o'clock, P. M.

Whereupon, on motion.

Adjourned until four o'clock, to-morrow, P. M.

Sunday, *March* 6, 1785, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

And having attended the funeral of the honorable *Joſeph Reed*, eſquire.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Monday,

Monday, March 7, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Bedkin,* late a captain in the army of the United States, was read, praying to be entitled to ſuch benefits and emoluments as officers of equal rank, in the *Pennſylvania* line, are entitled to.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Ewing,* was read, praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds, for the city and county of *Philadelphia,* in the room of the late *John Morris,* eſquire, deceaſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants reſiding on the weſtern ſide of the *Apalachian* mountains, in the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington,* and *Fayette,* was read, ſtating divers mal-practices in the exploring and locating lands, and praying this Houſe to remedy thoſe evils, as well as to exempt the ſettlers on the unlocated lands, from the payment of any intereſt on the purchaſe money, as they have been prevented, by the depredations of the *Indians,* during the late war, from cultivating or deriving any benefit therefrom.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Pittſburgh,* and country adjoining, within the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington,* was read, praying part of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington,* may be erected into a new county; and that the ſeat of juſtice may be fixed at the town of *Pittſburgh,* or upon the tract reſerved by the State on the weſt ſide of the *Allegheny.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entitled, " *An act for* " *furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the* " *debts of the United States, and for funding, and paying the intereſt of the pub-* " *lic debts of this State;*" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and ſingular the monies which have ariſen from and ſince the firſt day of *November* laſt paſt, and which ſhall hereafter ariſe and be received, by virtue and in purſuance of a certain act of the General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, made and paſſed the twenty-third day of *December,* in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entitled, " *An act for an impoſt on goods, wares, and merchan-* " *diſe, imported into this State;*" and by virtue and in purſuance of one other act of the ſaid General Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of *September,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-three, entitled, " *A ſupplement to an* " *act, entitled,* " An act for an impoſt on goods, wares, and merchandiſe, " imported into this State;" and by virtue and in purſuance of one other act of the ſaid General Aſſembly, paſſed the fifteenth day of *March,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, entitled, " *An act for raiſing a further* " *impoſt on all goods, wares, and merchandiſe, imported into this State;*" *together with the annual taxes hereinafter directed to be levied and collected,* and the reſidue of the taxes which have been heretofore aſſeſſed, by virtue of other acts of the General Aſſembly, enacted ſince the firſt day of *January,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-two, and which now remain due, and in arrears, from divers citizens, inhabitants, and eſtates in this Commonwealth, ſo far as the ſame are releaſed from former appropriations as aforeſaid, be, and the ſaid revenues and ſources of revenue are hereby ſeverally and reſpectively appropriated for and towards a fund for the purpoſes aforeſaid, and for ſuch other purpoſes as are and ſhall be herein after mentioned, and ſo ſhall remain, continue and be applied, and to no other uſe, intent or purpoſe whatſoever; any former or other appropriation thereof, or any part thereof, or any law, uſage, or cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding.

It was moved by Mr. *Miller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ewing*, to ſtrike out the words, "*together with the annual taxes herein after directed to be levied and collected*;"

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Willing*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Edward Jones*,
3. *Robert Ralſton*,
4. *Charles Humphreys*,
5. *Henry Miller*,
6. *John Hay*,
7. *Philip Gartner*,
8. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

9. *David M'Conaughy*,
10. *Henry Tyſon*,
11. *Joſeph Lilly*,
12. *George Woods*,
13. *Robert Cluggage*,
14. *William Todd*,
15. *Matthew Ritchie*,

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,
19. *James Porter*,
20. *William Stoey*,
21. *David Jenkins*,
22. *Robert Craig*,
23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
25. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
26. *Frederick Watts*,

NAYS.

27. *John Harris*,
28. *William Brown*,
29. *Robert Whitehill*,
30. *Nicholas Lutz*,
31. *Abraham Lincoln*,
32. *Chriſtian Lower*,
33. *David Davis*,
34. *Philip Kreemer*,
35. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
36. *Peter Burkhalter*,
37. *Robert Brown*,
38. *Jonas Hartzel*,
39. *John Ralſton*,
40. *Frederick Antes*,
41. *Daniel Montgomery*,
42. *Samuel Dale*,
43. *William Finley*,
44. *Thomas Morton*,
45. *John M'Dowell*,
46. *John Smiley*,
47. *James Johnſton*.
48. *Abraham Smith*,
49. *James M'Calmont*,
50. *Peter Richards*.
51. *Robert Loller*,
52. *George Smith*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon further debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Rowland Evans*, *Blathwaite Jones*, *Paul Cox*, *Daniel Jones*, and *John Steel*, were read, ſeverally, praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds, in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Van Swearingen*, was read, praying to be divorced from *Ann* his wife, and referring to his former petition read in the late Houſe day of

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Clunie* was read, praying to be appointed Collector of Exciſe in and for the county of *Dauphin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota* "*of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States,* "*and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this State*," ſo far as the juſt claims of the original holders of certificates are blended with he claims of thoſe who became voluntary purchaſers.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned to elect a Recorder of Deeds in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and for electing a egiſter of Wills, &c. and Recorder of Deeds, and Collector of Exciſe in d for the county of *Dauphin*.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for* "*furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the* "*debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*;"

And after the 14th ſection thereof had been amended as follows, *viz.*

"SECT. 14. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the "ſaid Loan Officer ſhall and may pay, with and out of ſuch monies as he ſhall "receive in each year as aforeſaid, the lawful intereſt for one year on all ſuch "certificates of monies loaned to the United States, or other certificates of "debts due from the United States, liquidated, aſcertained and authenticated "according to the directions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, or "according to the laws of this ſtate, as ſhall be demanded by the holders or "or poſſeſſors of ſuch certificates reſpectively; and ſuch payments ſhall be "indorſed on every ſuch certificate: *Provided always*, That ſuch certificates "reſpectively, were originally iſſued from the ſaid Loan Office or given or "granted for articles furniſhed, or for ſervices done and performed during the "late war by the citizens of this ſtate, or by officers or ſoldiers admitted "and adopted as of the *Pennſylvania* line or quota of the troops of this State, "and in the name and for the uſe of ſuch perſon or perſons, or ſome other "who at the time of ſuch iſſuing was or were, or ſince hath or have been a "citizen or citizens of this ſtate by actual reſidence within the ſame; or in "the name or for the uſe of a body politic or corporate within this ſtate; "and that there be the intereſt for one year at leaſt due thereon. And if any "difficulty ſhall ariſe concerning the propriety of paying the intereſt which "may be demanded by virtue of this act on any ſuch certificates, it ſhall be "incumbent on the claimant to produce the proof neceſſary to eſtabliſh ſuch

" claim, and if the evidence offered be not ſufficient to ſatisfy the ſaid Loan-" Officer, the ſame ſhall be referred to the Supreme Executive Council, " whoſe determination and order thereon ſhall be concluſive: *Provided alſo*, " That the indorſement of the ſaid Loan Officer on any ſuch certificate, of " the payment of one year's intereſt thereon in the notes iſſued for that pur-" poſe, by virtue of the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twenty-firſt day of *March*, " one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-three, ſhall be deemed ſufficient " evidence to admit ſuch certificate to be entitled to draw intereſt by virtue of " this act, unleſs it ſhall appear that ſuch payment and indorſement were frau-" dulently obtained: *And provided alſo*, That Loan Office certificates, re-" ceived by any citizen of this ſtate in payment for ſervices performed or ar-" ticles furniſhed for the uſe of the United States from any Quarter Maſter, " Commiſſary or other officer of the United States, to whom the ſame were " iſſued for that purpoſe in lieu of money, ſhall alſo be intitled to the pay-" ment of intereſt by virtue of this act, in whoſoever name or names the " ſame may have iſſued from the ſaid Loan Office."

" *And provided alſo*, That ſuch of the aforeſaid certificates as ſhall have been " iſſued for the pay, arrearages of pay or commutation to the officers and ſol-" diers aforeſaid, commonly called *Final Settlements*, ſhall not have been ali-" enated or transferred, but ſhall remain, at the time of making the firſt de-" mand of intereſt by virtue of this act, really and bona fide, the property of " ſuch perſon or perſons in whoſe name or for whoſe uſe ſuch certificates re-" ſpectively were originally iſſued, or the property of the heirs, executors, " adminiſtrators or legatees of ſuch perſon or perſons, or the property by " donation or legacy of a body politic or corporate, or charitable inſtitution, " which property ſhall be proved by the oath or affirmation of the perſon " making ſuch demand or the perſon in whoſe right the demand ſhall be made " before the Prothonotary of ſome one of the counties in this ſtate, (which " oath or affirmation the ſaid Prothonotaries are hereby ſeverally authoriſed " to adminiſter) within ninety days next before the making of ſuch demand, " which oath or affirmation ſhall be in writing, ſigned by the party making " the ſame, and ſhall ſpecify the date, number and ſum mentioned in the " certificate to which it relates, the name of the perſon or perſons to whom " iſſued, the name of the officer or commiſſioner who ſigned and iſſued the " ſame, and ſhall be delivered to the Loan Officer to be filed at the time of " making ſuch demand, for which oath or affirmation and certificate, the " ſaid Prothonotary ſhall be entitled to demand and receive one ſhilling and " no more.

" *And provided alſo*, That no certificate iſſued or to be iſſued by or from " the office of the Treaſury of the United States, commonly called the Comp-" troller General, Regiſter General or Auditor General's Office, ſhall be en-" titled to draw intereſt by virtue of this act, unleſs it ſhall appear by the at-" teſtation of the ſaid Comptroller General, Regiſter General, or other officer " who ſhall have ſigned and iſſued any ſuch certificate, that neither the con-" ſideration on which ſuch certificate was iſſued, nor any part thereof, hath " ariſen from any debt or certificate of a debt, which would not have en-" titled the bearer thereof to have drawn intereſt by virtue of this act."

It was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*, to ſtrike out the words, " *or were, or ſince hath or have been*," in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words " *and now is*."

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon, by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lilly*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *John Hey*,
7. *Philip Gartner*,
8. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

9. *David M'Conaughy*,
10. *Henry Tyſon*,
11. *Joſeph Lilly*,
12. *William Brown*,
13. *George Woods*,
14. *Robert Cluggage*,
15. *William Todd*,
16. *Matthew Ritchie*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
12. *Perſifor Frazer*,
13. *James Mercer*,
14. *John Craig*,
15. *Adam Orth*,
16. *Samuel Boyd*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*,
20. *Robert Craig*,
21. *Robert Clark*,
22. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
23. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
24. *Henry Miller*,
25. *Frederick Watts*,
26. *John Harris*,

NAYS.

27. *Robert Whitehill*,
28. *Nicholas Lutz*,
29. *Abraham Lincoln*,
30. *Chriſtian Lower*,
31. *David Davis*,
32. *Philip Kreemer*,
33. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
34. *Peter Burkhalter*,
35. *Robert Brown*,
36. *Jonas Hartzel*,
37. *John Ralſton*,
38. *Frederick Antes*,
39. *Daniel Montgomery*,
40. *Samuel Dale*,
41. *William Finley*,
42. *Thomas Morton*,
43. *John M'Dowell*,
44. *John Smiley*,
45. *James Johnſton*,
46. *Abraham Smith*,
47. *James M'Calmont*,
48. *Peter Richards*.
49. *Robert Loller*,
50. *George Smith*,
51. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative.

Whereupon, the queſtion "*Shall the paragraph, as above recited, be adopted?*" was put, upon which,

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ritchie*, and are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,

YEAS.

8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
12. *Percifor Frazer*,
13. *James Mercer*,
14. *John Craig*,

YEAS.

15. *Adam Orth,*
16. *Samuel Boyd,*
17. *James Porter,*
18. *William Stoey,*
19. *David Jenkins,*
20. *Robert Craig,*
21. *Robert Clark,*
22. *Peter Grubb,* Jun.
23. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
24. *Frederick Watts,*
25. *John Harris,*
26. *William Brown,*
27. *Robert Whitehill,*
28. *Nicholas Lutz,*
29. *Abraham Lincoln,*
30. *Chriſtian Lower,*
31. *David Davis,*
32. *Philip, Kreemer,*
33. *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

34. *Peter Burkhalter,*
35. *Robert Brown,*
36. *Jonas Hartzel,*
37. *John Ralſton,*
38. *Frederick Antes,*
39. *Daniel Montgomery,*
40. *Samuel Dale,*
41. *William Finley,*
42. *Thomas Morton,*
43. *John M'Dowell,*
44. *John Smiley,*
45. *James Johnſton,*
46. *Abraham Smith,*
47. *James M'Calmont.*
48. *Peter Richards,*
49. *Robert Loller,*
50. *George Smith,*
51. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner;*

NAYS.

9. *James Ewing,*
10. *David M'Conaughy,*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Joſeph Lilly,*
13. *George Woods,*
14. *Robert Cluggage,*
15. *William Todd,*
16. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Previouſly to the final queſtion being taken on the paragraph laſt mentioned, and after divers amendments had been adopted by the Houſe.

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, that one of the amendments ſhould be entered on the Journals as it originally ſtood, prior to an alteration made in it.

And on the queſtion " *Shall the ſame be entered accordingly ?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *David M'Conaughy,*

YEAS.

7. *Henry Tyſon,*
8. *Joſeph Lilly,*
9. *William Brown,*
10. *Robert Whitehill,*
11. *Robert Cluggage.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*

NAYS.

4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*

NAYS.

7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
12. *Perſifor Frazer*,
13. *James Mercer*,
14. *John Craig*,
15. *Adam Orth*,
16. *Samuel Boyd*,
17. *James Porter*,
18. *William Stoey*,
19. *David Jenkins*.
20. *Robert Craig*,
21. *Robert Clark*,
22. *Peter Grubb*, jun.
23. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
24. *Henry Miller*,
25. *John Hay*,
26. *Philip Gartner*,
27. *James Ewing*,
28. *Frederick Watts*,
29. *John Harris*,
30. *Nicholas Lutz*,
31. *Abraham Lincoln*,

NAYS.

32. *Chriſtian Lower*,
33. *David Davis*,
34. *Philip Kreemer*,
35. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
36. *Peter Burkhalter*,
37. *Robert Brown*,
38. *Jonas Hartzel*,
39. *John Ralſton*,
40. *Frederick Antes*,
41. *Daniel Montgomery*,
42. *Samuel Dale*,
43. *William Finley*,
44. *William Todd*,
45. *Thomas Morton*,
46. *Matthew Ritchie*,
47. *John M‘Dowell*,
48. *John Smiley*,
49. *James Johnſton*,
50. *Abraham Smith*,
51. *James M‘Calmont*,
52. *Peter Richards*,
53. *Robert Loller*,
54. *George Smith*,
55. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then, *Ordered*, That the further conſideration of the aforeſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 8, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A debate aroſe on reading the following Minute of yeſterday, *viz.*

" Previouſly to the final queſtion being taken on the paragraph laſt mentioned,
" and after divers amendments had been adopted by the Houſe, it
" was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, that one of the amendments
" ſhould be entered on the Journals as it originally ſtood, prior
" to an alteration made in it.

" And on the queſtion " *Shall the ſame be entered accordingly?*"

" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Willing*, and
" are as follow, *viz.*

" YEAS. 11.

NAYS. 56.

" So it was determined in the negative."

Whereupon, on the queſtion " *Shall the ſame be the Minute of the Houſe?*" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *Dale*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *Elias Boys,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *Thomas Long,*
10. *John Clark,*
11. *Joſeph Thomas,*
12. *John Keller,*
13. *Arthur Erwin,*
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
15. *Perſifor Frazer,*
16. *James Mercer,*
17. *John Craig,*
18. *Adam Orth,*
19. *Samuel Boyd,*
20. *James Porter,*
21. *William Stoey,*
22. *David Jenkins,*
23. *Robert Craig,*
24. *Robert Clark,*
25. *Frederick Watts,*
26. *John Harris,*
27. *William Brown,*
28. *Robert Whitehill,*
29. *Nicholas Lutz,*
30. *Abraham Lincoln,*
31. *Chriſtian Lower,*
32. *David Davis,*
33. *Philip Kreemer,*
34. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
35. *Peter Burkhalter,*
36. *Robert Brown,*
37. *Jonas Hartzel,*
38. *John Ralſton,*
39. *Frederick Antes,*
40. *Daniel Montgomery,*
41. *Samuel Dale,*
42. *William Finley,*
43. *Thomas Morton,*
44. *John M'Dowell,*
45. *John Smiley,*
46. *James Johnſton.*
47. *Abraham Smith,*
48. *James M'Calmont,*
49. *Peter Richards.*
50. *Robert Loller,*
51. *George Smith.*
52. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *James Ewing,*
9. *David M'Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage,*
14. *William Todd,*
15. *Matthew Ritchie,*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entitled, " *An act for* " *furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts* " *of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public* " *debts of this State.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſum of ſeventy " ſix thouſand nine hundred and forty five pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix " pence, lawful money of this State, ſhall be aſſeſſed, raiſed and levied yearly and every year ſucceſſively, in and after the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-*five*, and to continue for ſo long time as " ſhall be neceſſary for the purpoſes herein before and herein after mentioned, from and upon the eſtates real and perſonal, and perſons in the city " and ſeveral counties in this State, in two equal proportions or payments,

' whereof the firſt ſhall be collected and paid into the Treaſury, on or before the laſt day of *June*, and the ſecond on or before the firſt day of *December*, in each and every year."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Todd*, to ſtrike out the word "*five*," after the word eighty, and to inſert in lieu thereof, the word, '*ſix*." Whereupon,

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Anthony Wayne*,
5. *Edward Jones*,
6. *Robert Ralſton*,
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
8. *Perſifor Frazer*,
9. *Charles Humphreys*,
10. *Henry Miller*,
11. *John Hay*,
12. *Philip Gartner*,
13. *James Ewing*,
14. *David M'Conaughy*,
15. *Henry Tyſon*,
16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *William Brown*,
18. *George Woods*,
19. *Robert Cluggage*,
20. *William Todd*,
21. *Thomas Morton*,
22. *Matthew Ritchie*,
23. *John M'Dowell*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *John Keller*,
11. *Arthur Erwin*,
12. *James Mercer*,
13. *John Craig*,
14. *Adam Orth*,
15. *Samuel Boyd*,
16. *James Porter*,
17. *William Stoy*,
18. *David Jenkins*,
19. *Robert Craig*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
22. *Frederick Watts*,
23. *John Harris*,
24. *Robert Whitehill*,
25. *Nicholas Lutz*,
26. *Abraham Lincoln*,
27. *Chriſtian Lower*,
28. *David Davis*,
29. *Philip Kreemer*,
30. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
31. *Peter Burkhalter*,
32. *Robert Brown*,
33. *Jonas Hartzel*,
34. *John Ralſton*,
35. *Frederick Antes*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,
37. *Samuel Dale*,
38. *William Finley*,
39. *John Smiley*,
40. *James Johnſton*.
41. *Abraham Smith*,
42. *James M'Calmont*,
43. *Peter Richards*.
44. *Robert Loller*,
45. *George Smith*.
46. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative, and the amendment loſt.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Todd*, to ſtrike out the words "*ſeventy-ſix*," and in lieu thereof, to inſert the words "*thirty eight*," and after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.
Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *William Barton*, *Solomon Buſh*, *Abraham Shoemaker*, *Samuel Sitgraves*, *Peter Thompſon*, *Chriſtopher Baker*, *Iſaac Gray*, *Robert Whitehead*, *Robert Porter*, *Andrew Walker*, and *Robert Harris*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds, in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Long*, was read, praying to be appointed Collector of Exciſe, in and for the county of *Dauphin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the clauſe and amendment poſtponed this forenoon, *viz.* to ſtrike out the words "*ſeventy-ſix*," and inſert in lieu thereof, the words "*thirty-eight*."

And on the queſtion "*Will the Houſe adopt the amendment?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Edward Jones*,
3. *Robert Ralſton*,
4. *Charles Humphreys*,
5. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
6. *Henry Miller*,
7. *John Hay*,
8. *Philip Gartner*,
9. *James Ewing*,
10. *David M'Conaughy*,

YEAS.

11. *Henry Tyſon*,
12. *Joſeph Lilly*,
13. *William Brown*,
14. *George Woods*,
15. *Robert Cluggage*,
16. *William Todd*,
17. *Matthew Ritchie*,
18. *John M'Dowell*,
19. *James M'Calmont*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Elias Boys*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,

NAYS.

19. *James Porter*,
20. *William Stoy*,
21. *David Jenkins*,
22. *Robert Craig*,
23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *Frederick Watts*,
25. *Robert Whitehill*,
26. *Nicholas Lutz*,
27. *Abraham Lincoln*,
28. *Chriſtian Lower*,
29. *David Davis*,
30. *Philip Kreemer*,
31. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
32. *Peter Burkhalter*,
33. *Robert Brown*,
34. *Jonas Hartzel*,
35. *John Ralſton*,
36. *Frederick Antes*,

NAYS.

37. *Daniel Montgomery*,
38. *Samuel Dale*,
39. *William Finley*,
40. *Thomas Morton*,
41. *John Smiley*,
42. *James Johnſton*,

NAYS.

43. *Abraham Smith*,
44. *Peter Richards*.
45. *Robert Loller*,
46. *George Smith*,
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative and the amendment loſt. Whereupon

On the queſtion "*Will the Houſe adopt the original clauſe?*"
The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Ritchie*, and Mr. *Cluggage*, and are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *James Mercer*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *Samuel Boyd*,
15. *James Porter*,
16. *William Stoy*,
17. *David Jenkins*,
18. *Robert Craig*,
19. *Robert Clark*,
20. *Frederick Watts*,
21. *Robert Whitehill*,

YEAS.

22. *Nicholas Lutz*,
23. *Abraham Lincoln*,
24. *Chriſtian Lower*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Philip, Kreemer*,
27. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
28. *Peter Burkhalter*,
29. *Robert Brown*,
30. *Jonas Hartzel*,
31. *John Ralſton*,
32. *Frederick Antes*,
33. *Daniel Montgomery*,
34. *Samuel Dale*,
35. *William Finley*,
36. *John Smiley*,
37. *James Johnſton*,
38. *Abraham Smith*,
39. *Peter Richards*,
40. *Robert Loller*,
41. *George Smith*,
42. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
7. *Percifor Frazer*,
8. *Charles Humphreys*,
9. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
10. *Henry Miller*,
11. *John Hay*,
12. *Philip Gartner*,

NAYS.

13. *James Ewing*,
14. *David M'Conaughy*,
15. *Henry Tyſon*,
16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *William Brown*,
18. *George Woods*,
19. *Robert Cluggage*,
20. *William Todd*,
21. *Thomas Morton*,
22. *Matthew Ritchie*,
23. *John M'Dowell*,
24. *James M'Calmont*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

And in debating the 24th ſection of the aforeſaid bill, as publiſhed for conſideration, On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *Johnſton*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, be a committee to aſcertain and report the quota of the taxes to be raiſed by the ſeveral counties of this State, conformably to the ſaid clauſe.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, read *December* 23 laſt, on the Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, relative to the eminent ſervices of *Thomas Paine*, eſquire.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 9, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Clement Biddle*, *Matthew Erwin*, *Edward Pole*, *William Shannon*, and *George Tudor*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds, in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Abel Reece*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the Gaol of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Charles Beſſonet*, and *Gerſhom Johnſton*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to enable them to open a new road from the ſixteen-mile ſtone, on the road from *Philadelphia* to *Briſtol*, and to eſtabliſh a ferry, or erect a bridge over *Neſhameny* creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, or that the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to a more central part of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Harriſon*, was read, referring to his former petitions, on behalf of himſelf and others, creditors of perſons attainted of high treaſon; and praying that ſome ſpeedy and effectual meaſures may be taken for ſatisfying the claims of ſuch creditors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Managers for the relief and employment of the poor in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under; and praying leave to bring in a bill to remedy ſeveral defects in former laws reſpecting their inſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants reſiding in the Manor of *Maſk*, within the county of *York*, was read, ſtating, that the act for veſting the eſtate of the late Proprietaries in the Commonwealth, excludes thoſe reſiding on the Proprietary Manors from the advantages and immunities ariſing from that act. And remonſtrating againſt the bill entitled, "*An act* "*for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of* "*the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the* "*public debts of this State*;" ſo far as the ſame is intended to compel the inhabitants of the ſaid Manor to bear an equal proportion in the ſum to be paid the ſaid late Proprietaries, as a compenſation for their ſaid eſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers perſons living within the line of the manor of *Maſk*, in *York* county, was read, repreſenting that the tenure of their lands is independent of the ſaid manor: that the officers of the Land Office, apprehending their lands to be part of the ſaid manor, refuſe them patents for their lands: therefore praying the interpoſition of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Memorials from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, were read, ſetting forth, that the navigation of the river *Delaware*, is of the utmoſt importance to the inhabitants of the ſaid county; therefore, praying the Commiſſioners appointed to aſcertain what iſlands, in the ſaid river, belong to this State, may be inſtructed to examine the ſaid river and its navigable branches, and report an eſtimate of the expence in removing the obſtructions to the navigation in the ſame river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing*
" *the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts*
" *of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public*
" *debts of this State.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That as ſoon as may be after
" the ſaid appeals are over, and the aſſeſſments corrected and eſtabliſhed accordingly,
" the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall tranſmit fair duplicates of ſuch
" aſſeſſments to the ſaid diſtrict Collectors reſpectively, together with a warrant
" under their hands and ſeals, or of any two of them, authoriſing and
" requiring every ſuch Collector to demand, levy and receive from the perſons
" named in ſuch duplicate, the rates and ſums therein expreſſed to be
" aſſeſſed on ſuch perſons reſpectively, immediately after the expiration of
" ten days from the day of appeal as aforeſaid; and if any perſon or perſons
" ſhall neglect or refuſe to make ſuch payment within twenty days after demand
" made by the Collector, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch
" Collector, *and he is hereby commanded and required to apply to ſome Juſtice of*
" *the Peace within the city or county where ſuch delinquents reſide, and to deliver*
" *to ſuch Juſtice, a liſt in writing, ſigned by ſuch Collector, containing the*
" *names of all ſuch delinquents, together with the ſums of money due from them*
" *reſpectively, according to the ſaid aſſeſſments.*"

It was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, to ſtrike out the whole of the foregoing clauſe, after the words " *to and for ſuch Collector,*" and in lieu thereof to inſert, " *by virtue of a ſpecial warrant for that purpoſe,*
" *ſigned and ſealed by two or more of the ſaid Commiſſioners, who ſhall forthwith*
" *grant the ſame, and ſhall thereby empower the ſaid Collectors to call to their*
" *aſſiſtance, if occaſion be, any conſtable or other perſon, in caſe of reſiſtance,*
" *to break open in the day time, any houſe, trunk, box, cheſt, cloſet, cupboard,*
" *or other things, where any ſuch offender's goods and chattels or effects are ſuppoſed*
" *to be, and make diſtreſs and ſale thereof, rendering the overplus, if any*
" *be, to the owners, after reaſonable charges deducted.*"

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Miller*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

5. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
6. *Perſifor Frazer,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Henry Miller,*

YEAS.

9. *John Hay*,
10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,

YEAS.

15. *William Brown*,
16. *Abraham Lincoln*,
17. *Robert Brown*,
18. *George Woods*,
19. *Robert Cluggage*,
20. *Matthew Ritchie*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *John Keller*,
11. *Arthur Erwin*,
12. *James Mercer*,
13. *John Craig*,
14. *Adam Orth*,
15. *Samuel Boyd*,
16. *James Porter*,
17. *William Stoy*,
18. *David Jenkins*,
19. *Robert Craig*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
22. *Frederick Watts*,

NAYS.

23. *John Harris*,
24. *Robert Whitehill*,
25. *Nicholas Lutz*,
26. *Chriſtian Lower*,
27. *David Davis*,
28. *Philip Kreemer*,
29. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
30. *Peter Burkhalter*,
31. *Jonas Hartzel*,
32. *Frederick Antes*,
33. *Daniel Montgomery*,
34. *Samuel Dale*,
35. *William Finley*,
36. *Thomas Morton*,
37. *John M'Dowell*,
38. *John Smiley*,
39. *James Johnſton*,
40. *Abraham Smith*,
41. *James M'Calmont*,
42. *Peter Richards*,
43. *Robert Loller*,
44. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative: and the aforeſaid clauſe after being amended was adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"SECT. 38. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That every Juſtice "of the Peace, to whom application ſhall be made by any Collector as afore- "ſaid, ſhall thereupon iſſue his warrant to any Conſtable of the townſhip, "ward or diſtrict in which ſuch delinquent ſhall reſide, to levy and recover "ſuch ſum or ſums of money reſpectively, by diſtreſs and ſale of the goods, "chattels and effects of ſuch delinquents reſpectively, or by impriſonment "of the perſon of any ſuch delinquent as the caſe may require, and render "ſuch monies to the ſaid Collector, within   days after the "receipt of any ſuch warrant."

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame as amended?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Ewing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,

YEAS.

5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,

YEAS.

9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *James Porter,*
13. *William Stoy,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
16. *Frederick Watts,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Chriſtian Lower,*
21. *David Davis,*
22. *Philip Kreemer,*
23. *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Jonas Hartzel,*
26. *John Ralſton,*
27. *Frederick Antes,*
28. *Daniel Montgomery,*
29. *Samuel Dale,*
30. *William Finley,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *John Smiley,*
33. *James Johnſton,*
34. *Abraham Smith,*
35. *James M‘Calmont,*
36. *George Smith,*
37. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *John Keller,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Anthony Wayne,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Perſifor Frazer,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Robert Craig,*
10. *Robert Clark,*
11. *Henry Miller,*
12. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

13. *Philip Gartner,*
14. *James Ewing,*
15. *David M‘Conaughy,*
16. *Henry Tyſon,*
17. *Joſeph Lilly,*
18. *William Brown,*
19. *Abraham Lincoln,*
20. *Robert Brown,*
21. *George Woods,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie,*
23. *Peter Richards,*
24. *Robert Loller.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe adopted.

Whereupon, *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Ezekiel Forman*, *Andrew Porter*, *James B. Smith* and *Jacob Shallus*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for* "*furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the* "*debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the pub-* "*lic debts of this State.*"

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the following paragraph,* viz.

"SECT. 47. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the taxes and "ſums of money to be levied and collected by virtue of this act, ſhall be "paid and diſcharged in gold or ſilver money, at the rate of three pounds "for one half *Johannes* of *Portugal* money, weighing nine penny-weight of "gold, and ſeven ſhillings and ſix pence for one *Spaniſh* milled dollar, weighing

“ ing ſeventeen penny-weight and ſix grains of ſilver, and ſo in proportion
“ for other gold and ſilver money, or in the Bills of Credit herein after di-
“ rected, to be made and iſſued, and in no other money whatſoever.”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Woods*, and are as follow, *viz.*

Y E A S.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *William Will*,
5. *Jacob Engle*,
6. *Elias Boys*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *John Keller*,
13. *Arthur Erwin*,
14. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
15. *Perſifor Frazer*,
16. *James Mercer*,
17. *John Craig*,
18. *Adam Orth*,
19. *Samuel Boyd*,
20. *James Porter*,
21. *David Jenkins*,
22. *Robert Craig*,
23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
25. *Frederick Watts*,
26. *John Harris*,
27. *William Brown*,
28. *Robert Whitehill*,
29. *Nicholas Lutz*,
30. *Abraham Lincoln*,
31. *Chriſtian Lower*,
32. *David Davis*,
33. *Philip Kreemer*,
34. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
35. *Peter Burkhalter*,
36. *Robert Brown*,
37. *Jonas Hartzel*,
38. *John Ralſton*,
39. *Frederick Antes*,
40. *Daniel Montgomery*,
41. *Samuel Dale*,
42. *William Finley*,
43. *Thomas Morton*,
44. *John M'Dowell*,
45. *John Smiley*,
46. *James Johnſton*,
47. *Abraham Smith*,
48. *James M'Calmont*,
49. *Peter Richards*,
50. *Robert Loller*,
51. *George Smith*,
52. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

N A Y S.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Henry Miller*,
7. *John Hay*,
8. *Philip Gartner*,
9. *James Ewing*,
10. *David M'Conaughy*,
11. *Henry Tyſon*,
12. *Joſeph Lilly*,
13. *George Woods*,
14. *Robert Cluggage*,
15. *William Todd*,
16. *Matthew Ritchie*,

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe agreed to: whereupon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 10, 1785, A. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition of a number of *Germans*, inhabitants of *Bucks* county, was read, repreſenting that they labour under a great diſadvantage, in not being able to inform themſelves of the proceedings of the Legiſlature, from time to time, not underſtanding the *Engliſh* language, whereby the are precluded from heartily concurring with their fellow citizens in applying for redreſs of grievances, by way of addreſs, petition, or remonſtrance, as the caſe may be; therefore, praying, that a competent number of the Laws and Minutes of the Aſſembly, be printed in the *German* language.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion, read *March* 1, laſt, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it hath required the whole of the time of the Clerk, and Aſſiſtant Clerk, in ſuperintending the Printing Preſſes, during the late receſs of the Houſe, and their unwearied attention to the multiplicity of buſineſs, prior to the laſt adjournment, demand a reaſonable compenſation for the ſame. Therefore,

Reſolved, That the ſaid Clerk, and Aſſiſtant Clerk, be allowed their full pay, during the late receſs of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the Door-keeper be allowed half pay, for the ſame term, in conſideration of his ſervices, in going of meſſages, and making of fires in the Aſſembly Chamber.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Recorder of Deeds, in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, a Regiſter of Wills, &c. and Recorder of Deeds, and a Collector of Exciſe, in and for the county of *Dauphin*, and the ballots being taken, it appeared, that *Matthew Erwin*, eſquire, was duly elected Recorder of Deeds, in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*; *Joſeph Montgomery*, eſquire, Regiſter of Wills, &c. and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Dauphin*; and *James Clunie*, Collector of Exciſe, in and for the county of *Dauphin*, aforeſaid.

Reſolved, That the ſaid *James Clunie*, be, and he is hereby appointed Collector of Exciſe, in and for the county of *Dauphin*, aforeſaid.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial forom divers Juſtices of the Peace of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, repreſenting that the fees allowed them by the act of Aſſembly of the late province, paſſed in the year 1752, are very inadequate to their ſervices and neceſſary expences, occaſioned by the great riſe in the prices of every article of living, that the ſalaries of the Judges and the wages of the Aſſemblymen have been, ſince the period aforeſaid, increaſed; that by the Conſtitution, "If any man is called into public ſervice to the prejudice of his private "affairs, he has a right to a reaſonable compenſation;" and therefore praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant them ſuch relief as their ſervices deſerve.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation of the Faculty of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania*, was read, ſtating, that for want of a few aſtronomical inſtruments, of ſmall value, they are unable to teach the ſtudents how to make any aſtronomical obſervations, or even to underſtand the conſtruction or uſe of ſuch inſtruments; that as the Aſſembly have a very good teleſcope, formerly ordered from *England* to obſerve the tranſit of *Venus*, and a time piece lately made for aſcertaining the ſouth weſtern corner of the ſtate, which together with an equal altitude teleſcope,

ſcope, are eſſentially neceſſary for making aſtronomical obſervations, and therefore think it would be for the advantage and honor of the ſtate, that theſe inſtruments be depoſited in the Univerſity, and recommending that a few other inſtruments be purchaſed for the ſame purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of *Bertleſs Shee*, *Benjamin Carr*, *Robert Roſs*, *Abel Rees*, *George Wright*, *Wingate Newman*, *Lyon & Longſtreet*, and *William Zeigeſar*, inſolvent debtors in the Gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Mercer* to report a bill if they deem it proper.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Wyoming*, in the county of *Northumberland*, commonly called the *Connecticut* claimants, was read, ſtating certain grievances and hardſhips they have received from people of this ſtate and praying the interpoſition of the Houſe.

A petition from a number of inhabitants of a diſtrict where the counties of *Bucks*, *Northampton* and *Montgomery* interſect each other, was read, praying a reviſion of the Teſt Laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Sundry petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of this ſtate, were read, praying for for a reviſion of the Teſt Laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Corear* and *Joſeph Clatterbook*, late ſoldiers in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that owing to the loſs of the abſtracts of the accounts of the companies to which they belonged, their pay accounts cannot be ſettled, therefore praying the interpoſition of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of *Joſeph Mather*, was read, ſtating, that the term for which the preſent Inſpector of Flour was appointed is nearly expired, therefore praying to be appointed to ſaid office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entitled, "*An act for* "*furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts* "*of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public* "*debts of this State.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"SECT. 51. *Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That Bills of "Credit to the amount or value of one hundred and eighty-three thouſand "two hundred and thirty-two pounds, and of the ſeveral denominations herein "after mentioned, ſhall be prepared and printed on good ſtrong paper, as "ſoon as conveniently may be after the paſſing of this act, under the care "and direction of the Truſtees herein after mentioned and appointed; which "Bills of Credit ſhall ſeverally be prepared and printed in the words following, that is to ſay, 'This bill by law ſhall paſs current for 'within the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, according to an act of the General Aſſembly, paſſed at *Philadelphia*, the day of 'Anno Domini one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five.' And each of "the ſaid bills ſhall have the arms of the ſtate, as an eſcutcheon in the margin thereof, together with ſuch other device or devices as the ſaid Truſtees ſhall think proper, as well to prevent counterfeits as to diſtinguiſh "their ſeveral denominations. And the ſaid bills ſhall be of the ſeveral denominations, and in the quantities following, that is to ſay,"

It was moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, to ſtrike out after the words “ *value of one hundred and*” the words “ *eighty-three thouſand two hundred and thirty-two*,” which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, to ſtrike out the words “ *one hundred*.”

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Smiley*, are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Henry Miller*,

YEAS.

7. *John Hay*,
8. *Philip Gartner*,
9. *James Ewing*,
10. *Henry Tyſon*,
11. *Joſeph Lilly*,
12. *George Woods*.

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *John Keller*,
11. *Arthur Erwin*,
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
13. *Perſifor Frazer*,
14. *James Mercer*,
15. *John Craig*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *Samuel Boyd*,
18. *James Porter*,
19. *William Stoy*,
20. *David Jenkins*,
21. *Robert Craig*,
22. *Robert Clark*,
23. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
24. *David M‘Conaughy*,
25. *Frederick Watts*,
26. *John Harris*,

NAYS.

27. *William Brown*,
28. *Robert Whitehill*,
29. *Nicholas Lutz*,
30. *Abraham Lincoln*,
31. *Chriſtian Lower*,
32. *David Davis*,
33. *Philip Kreemer*,
34. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
35. *Peter Burkhalter*,
36. *Jonas Hartzel*,
37. *John Ralſton*,
38. *Frederick Antes*,
39. *Daniel Montgomery*,
40. *Samuel Dale*,
41. *William Finley*,
42. *Matthew Ritchie*,
43. *John M‘Dowell*.
44. *John Smiley*,
45. *James Johnſton*,
46. *Abraham Smith*,
47. *James M‘Calmont*,
48. *Peter Richards*,
49. *Robert Loller*,
50. *George Smith*,
51. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative.

Thereupon, It was moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, to inſert after the words “ *one hundred and*,” the words “ *fifty thouſand*,” and carried in the affirmative.

It was then on motion made by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smiley*, to inſert after the words “ *that is to ſay*,” the words “ 54,545 *of twenty ſhillings each*, 54,546 *of fifteen ſhillings each*, 54,545 *of ten ſhillings each*, “ 54,546 *of five ſhillings each*, 54,546 *of two ſhillings and ſix-pence each*, “ 54,546 *of one ſhilling and ſix-pence each*, 54,546 *of nine-pence each, and* “ 54,546

" 54,546 *of three-pence each*;" which was determined in the affirmative.

Whereupon, on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid clauſe as amended?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *James Mercer,*
15. *John Craig,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *Samuel Boyd,*
18. *James Porter,*
19. *William Stoy,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Craig,*
22. *Robert Clark,*
23. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
24. *David M'Conaughy,*
25. *Frederick Watts,*
26. *John Harris,*
27. *William Brown,*
28. *Robert Whitehill,*
29. *Nicholas Lutz,*
30. *Abraham Lincoln,*
31. *Chriſtian Lower,*
32. *David Davis,*
33. *Philip Kreemer,*
34. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
35. *Peter Burkhalter,*
36. *Jonas Hartzel,*
37. *John Ralſton,*
38. *Frederick Antes,*
39. *Daniel Montgomery,*
40. *Samuel Dale,*
41. *William Finley,*
42. *Matthew Ritchie,*
43. *John M'Dowell,*
44. *John Smiley,*
45. *James Johnſton,*
46. *Abraham Smith,*
47. *James M'Calmont,*
48. *Peter Richards,*
49. *Robert Loller,*
50. *George Smith,*
51. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*
9. *James Ewing,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 11, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Van Swearingen,* read *March* 7, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Miller,* Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entitled, “*An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding, and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this State*;” and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“*And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the Bills of Credit herein before directed to be made and iſſued, ſhall be taken, deemed and received as equal to gold and ſilver money, for the ſums mentioned in each Bill reſpectively, in all payments to this State for lands purchaſed or to be purchaſed within the ſame, and for arrearages due on lands already located or warranted, *and alſo for the arrearages of all general taxes heretofore aſſeſſed,* and for the taxes herein directed to be aſſeſſed and collected, *and for debts due to the State,* and for all cuſtoms, impoſts, duties and debts whatſoever, which ſhall hereafter ariſe and become due to this State, by virtue of this act or any act or law heretofore made; and the ſeveral perſons appointed and authoriſed to receive and collect the ſame, are hereby directed to receive ſuch Bills of Credit accordingly, any law, uſage or cuſtom to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.”

It was moved by Mr. *Todd,* ſeconded by Mr. *Morton,* to inſert after the words, “*and for debts due to the State,*” the words “*and to the citizens thereof;*”

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Morton,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Todd,*

YEAS.

2. *Thomas Morton.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *John Keller,*
12. *Arthur Erwin,*
13. *Richard Willing,*
14. *Anthony Wayne,*
15. *Edward Jones,*
16. *Robert Ralſton,*
17. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
18. *Perſifor Frazer,*
19. *Thomas Potts,*
20. *Charles Humphreys,*
21. *John Craig,*
22. *Adam Orth,*
23. *Samuel Boyd,*
24. *James Porter,*
25. *William Stoy,*
26. *David Jenkins,*

NAYS.

27. *Robert Craig,*
28. *Robert Clark,*
29. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
30. *Henry Miller,*
31. *John Hay,*
32. *Philip Gartner,*
33. *James Ewing,*
34. *David M‘Conaughy,*
35. *Henry Tyſon,*
36. *Joſeph Lilly,*
37. *Frederick Watts,*
38. *John Harris,*
39. *William Brown,*
40. *Robert Whitehill,*
41. *Nicholas Lutz,*
42. *Abraham Lincoln,*
43. *Chriſtian Lower,*
44. *David Davis,*
45. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
46. *Robert Brown,*
47. *Jonas Hartzel,*
48. *John Ralſton,*
49. *Robert Cluggage,*
50. *Frederick Antes,*
51. *Daniel Montgomery,*
52. *Samuel Dale,*

NAYS.

53. *William Finley,*
54. *Matthew Ritchie.*
55. *John Smiley,*
56. *James Johnſton,*
57. *Abraham Smith,*

NAYS.

58. *James M'Calmont,*
59. *Peter Richards,*
60. *Robert Loller,*
61. *George Smith,*
62. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Humphreys*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*, to ſtrike our the words "*and alſo for the arrearages of all general taxes heretofore aſſeſſed,*" and on the queſtion being put, it was determined in the negative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"*And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That until the quotas of the city and ſeveral counties of this State, ſhall be farther liquidated, regulated and eſtabliſhed the annual levies and aſſeſſments aforeſaid ſhall be charged on and collected from the ſaid city and counties in the proportions and manner following; that is to ſay:

The city and county of *Philadelphia* the ſum of	19,492	5	6
The county of *Bucks* the ſum of	5,042	1	8
The county of *Cheſter*, the ſum of	8,093	17	6
The county of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin*, the ſum of	10,953	9	7 to
be liquidated and apportioned by the Commiſſioners of the ſaid two counties in proportion to the aſſeſſments made in the year 1783.			
The county of *York*, the ſum of	6,102	18	3
The county of *Berks*, the ſum of	5,509	12	2
The county of *Cumberland*, the ſum of	3,383	10	9
The county of *Northampton*, the ſum of	3,171	12	0
The county of *Bedford*, the ſum of	1,738	13	4
The county of *Northumberland*, the ſum of	2,147	16	1
The county of *Weſtmoreland*, the ſum of	700	0	0
The county of *Waſhington*, the ſum of	1,478	13	9
The county of *Fayette*, the ſum of	778	13	9
The county of *Franklin*, the ſum of	2,352	13	2
The county of *Montgomery*, the ſum of	6,000	0	0

It was moved by Mr. *G. Smith* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to ſtrike out the quota of *Montgomery* county *viz,* "*ſix thouſand,*" and to inſert in lieu thereof, "*five thouſand,*" whereupon,

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *G. Smith* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Thomas Long,*
2. *John Clark,*
3. *Joſeph Thomas,*
4. *Arthur Erwin,*
5. *Richard Willing,*
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
7. *Perſifor Frazer,*
8. *Thomas Potts,*
9. *Charles Humphreys,*
10. *James Mercer,*
11. *John Craig,*

YEAS.

12. *James Porter,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *Henry Tyſon,*
15. *Frederick Watts,*
16. *William Brown,*
17. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
18. *Jonas Hartzel,*
19. *John Ralſton,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *Daniel Montgomery,*
22. *Samuel Dale,*

YEAS.

23. *William Finley,*
24. *William Todd,*
25. *Thomas Morton,*
26. *John Smiley,*
27. *James Johnſton,*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Keller,*
9. *Anthony Wayne,*
10. *Edward Jones,*
11. *Robert Ralſton,*
12. *Adam Orth,*
13. *Samuel Boyd,*
14. *William Stoy,*
15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Craig,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Robert M'Pherſon,*

YEAS.

28. *Abraham Smith,*
29. *James M'Calmont,*
30. *Peter Richards,*
31. *George Smith,*
32. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

19. *John Hay,*
20. *Philip Gartner,*
21. *James Ewing,*
22. *David M'Conaughy,*
23. *Joſeph Lilly,*
24. *Robert Whitehill,*
25. *Nicholas Lutz,*
26. *Abraham Lincoln,*
27. *Chriſtian Lower,*
28. *David Davis,*
29. *Philip Kreemer,*
30. *Peter Burkhalter,*
31. *Robert Brown,*
32. *George Woods,*
33. *Frederick Antes,*
34. *Matthew Ritchie,*
35. *John M'Dowell.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.
Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petitions from divers inhabitants of the manor of *Maſk,* read *March* 9, were read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Engle,* Mr. *J. Clark,* Mr. *Frazer,* Mr. *J. Craig,* Mr. *Ewing,* Mr. *W. Brown,* Mr. *Lower,* Mr. *J. Ralſton,* Mr. *Cluggage,* Mr. *Dale,* Mr. *Morton,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Smiley,* Mr. *A. Smith,* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for furniſhing the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts* " *of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public* " *debts of this State.*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.*

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Frazer,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*

YEAS.

3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*

YEAS.

5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *Manuel Eyre*,
7. *William Coats*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,
19. *James Porter*,
20. *William Stoy*,
21. *David Jenkins*,
22. *Robert Craig*,
23. *Robert Clark*,
24. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
25. *Frederick Watts*,
26. *John Harris*,
27. *William Brown*,
28. *Robert Whitehill*,
29. *Nicholas Lutz*,
30. *Abraham Lincoln*,
31. *Chriſtian Lower*,
32. *David Davis*,
33. *Philip Kreemer*,
34. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
35. *Peter Burkhalter*,
36. *Robert Brown*,
37. *Jonas Hartzel*,
38. *John Ralſton*,
39. *Frederick Antes*,
40. *Daniel Montgomery*,
41. *Samuel Dale*,
42. *William Finley*,
43. *Thomas Morton*,
44. *John M'Dowell*,
45. *John Smiley*,
46. *James Johnſton*,
47. *Abraham Smith*,
48. *Peter Richards*,
49. *Robert Loller*,
50. *George Smith*,
51. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Thomas Potts*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Henry Miller*,
8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *James Ewing*,
11. *David M'Conaughy*,
12. *Henry Tyſon*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *George Woods*,
15. *Robert Cluggage*.
16. *William Todd*,
17. *Matthew Ritchie*,
18. *James M'Calmont*,

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 12, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, eſquire, Judge of the Court of Admiralty, was read, ſtating divers imperfections in the laws inſtituting the Court of Admiralty Seſſions, and ſuggeſting to this Houſe the propriety of a reviſion of the ſaid laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *Thomas Paine*, eſquire, poſtponed *March* 8, and after ſome debate.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *March* 4, on the petition of the burgeſſes and inhabitants of the borough of *Lancaſter*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That the corporation of the borough of *Lancaſter*, for the time being, ſhall have the uſe and poſſeſſion of the Powder Magazine near ſaid borough, for ſuch time as the State ſhall have no uſe for the ſame, or until the Supreme Executive Council, ſhall direct the ſame to be delivered up for the uſe of the Commonwealth, on condition that the ſaid corporation pay the ground rent which is now due or ſhall become due on the lot or lots of ground whereon the ſaid magazine is built, during the time they ſhall be in ſuch poſſeſſion, and for putting and keeping the ſame in good order and repair.

The bill entitled, " *An act to provide further regulations whereby to ſecure* " *fair and equal proceedings in the Land Office and in the ſurveying of lands*," was read the ſecond time, and after having debated the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That all warrants of " ſurvey that ſhall be iſſued by the Land Office of this State, after the draw- " ing of the ſaid lottery, for lands within the ſaid late purchaſe, ſhall be " executed in the order, and have preference of ſurvey, as they ſhall ſeveral- " ly be earlieſt delivered to the Deputy Surveyor of the diſtrict, to whom " they be directed, who ſhall make ſurvey thereupon, and for that purpoſe, " the ſaid Surveyor General ſhall regiſter the ſame warrants and every of " them, in the order they ſhall come to his office, in the manner directed " in reſpect to the warrant firſt aforeſaid, and every ſurvey of the lands with- " in the ſaid late purchaſe, which ſhall be made in purſuance of this act, " and of the former acts of this Commonwealth, for opening and regulating " the Land Office, ſhall be duly returned into the office of the ſaid Surveyor " General, as ſoon as conveniently may be, after ſuch ſurvey ſhall be made, " upon the payment or tender of the fees to which ſuch Deputy Surveyor " ſhall be legally entitled, for his ſervices therein: And if any ſuch ſurvey " ſhall have been made on or before the thirty-firſt day of *December*, in any " year, and ſhall not be returned into the office of the ſaid Surveyor Gene- " ral, on or before the day of *March*, in the year next follow- " ing, the ſame ſurvey ſhall be void, as to future ſurveys, which ſhall be " ſooner returned and filed in the office of the Surveyor General; and if ſuch " avoidance ſhall happen by the neglect or default of the Deputy Surveyor " who ſurveyed the ſame, ſuch Deputy Surveyor ſhall be anſwerable to the " party thereby damaged for all the damages, he or ſhe ſhall ſuſtain by ſuch " neglect or default as aforeſaid, and the party ſhall be entitled to a new " warrant to ſurvey other land elſewhere, to ſatisfy his original application."

On the queſtion " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Woods*, and Mr. *W. Brown*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *Thomas Long*,
5. *John Keller*,
6. *Arthur Erwin*,
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,

YEAS.

8. *Thomas Potts*,
9. *Charles Humphreys*,
10. *James Mercer*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *Samuel Boyd*,
14. *James Porter*,

YEAS.

15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Craig,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Henry Miller,*
19. *John Hay,*
20. *Philip Gartner,*
21. *Henry Tyſon,*
22. *Joſeph Lilly,*
23. *Frederick Watts,*
24. *John Harris,*
25. *Robert Whitehill,*
26. *Nicholas Lutz,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Philip Kreemer,*
29. *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

30. *Peter Burkhalter,*
31. *Robert Brown,*
32. *Jonas Hartzel,*
33. *John Ralſton,*
34. *Frederick Antes,*
35. *Daniel Montgomery,*
36. *Samuel Dale,*
37. *William Finley,*
38. *Thomas Morton,*
39. *John M‘Dowell.*
40. *John Smiley,*
41. *James Johnſton,*
42. *Abraham Smith,*
43. *James M‘Calmont,*
44. *Peter Richards.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*

NAYS.

7. *James Ewing,*
8. *David M‘Conaughy,*
9. *William Brown,*
10. *Abraham Lincoln,*
11. *George Woods.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, March 14, 1785, A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met purſuant to adjournment; but the indiſpoſition of the Speaker, preventing his attendance, therefore,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 15, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants, reſiding on the north ſide of the *Tuſcarora,* mountain, in the county of *Cumberland,* were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Hallam,* in behalf of himſelf and others, the comedians commonly called the *American* company, was read, praying the repeal of that part of the act of Aſſembly, which prohibits the exhibition of Stage-Plays; and ſubmitting to the wiſdom of the Houſe, the impoſition of ſuch tax thereon, as to the Houſe ſhall ſeem meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Samuel Holliday,* was read, ſetting forth, that his remote ſituation hath prevented him from regiſtering his Negroe ſlaves, agreeably to the laws of this Commonwealth; and praying to be allowed a further time for regiſtering the ſaid ſlaves.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *February* 21, laſt, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Wallace*, read *February* 25, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed, 24th *February*, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed, *March* 3, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed, *March* 11, on the petition of *Van Swearingen*; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to provide further regulations, whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-Office, and in the ſurveying of land*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*An act for directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, promiſed to the troops, by this Commonwealth*;" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the town of *Pittſburgh*, and and country adjoining, within the counties of *Weſtmoreland*, and *Waſhington*, read *March* 7, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, and Mr. *Smiley*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph Knight*, read *February* 24, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Grievances, to report thererean. Whereupon,

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *M'Dowell*, be added to the Committee of Grievances, in the room of the late Mr. *Stevenſon*, deceaſed.

The petition of *Henry Bedkin*, read *March* 7, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill;" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The petition of *George Schloſſer*, read *February* 28, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Grievances, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act for directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, promiſed to the troops, by this Commonwealth*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 16, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill entitled, "*An act to furniſh the quota of this State, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this State*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *Thomas Long*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *John Keller*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Perſifor Frazer*,
14. *James Mercer*,
15. *John Craig*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *Samuel Boyd*,
18. *James Porter*,
19. *William Stoy*,
20. *David Jenkins*,
21. *Robert Craig*,
22. *Robert Clark*,
23. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
24. *John Harris*,

YEAS.

25. *Robert Whitehill*,
26. *Nicholas Lutz*,
27. *Abraham Lincoln*,
28. *Chriſtian Lower*,
29. *David Davis*,
30. *Philip Kreemer*,
31. *Peter Burkhalter*,
32. *Robert Brown*,
33. *Jonas Hartzel*,
34. *John Ralſton*,
35. *Frederick Antes*,
36. *Daniel Montgomery*,
37. *Samuel Dale*,
38. *William Finley*,
39. *Thomas Morton*,
40. *John M‘Dowell*,
41. *John Smiley*,
42. *James Johnſton*,
43. *Abraham Smith*,
44. *Peter Richards*,
45. *Robert Loller*,
46. *George Smith*,
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Thomas Potts*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Henry Miller*,

NAYS.

8. *John Hay*,
9. *Philip Gartner*,
10. *James Ewing*,
11. *David M‘Conaughy*,
12. *Henry Tyſon*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *George Woods*,

NAYS.

15. *Robert Cluggage.*
16. *William Todd,*

NAYS.

17. *Matthew Ritchie,*
18. *James M'Calmont,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

DISSENTIENT.

Firſt. BECAUSE, from the reſidence of Congreſs within this State, during the greater part of the war, a large concourſe of foreigners were induced to reſort hither, who, together with a conſiderable number of merchants and traders belonging to many of our ſiſter ſtates, held a temporary reſidence in *Pennſylvania,* and placed large ſums of money in the funds of the United States, through the channel of the public Loan-Office of this State; and large debts contracted on account of the United States, were here liquidated and paid, by iſſuing certificates from the Loan Office of this State for the ſame, by means whereof the ſums lent to the United States, for which certificates have been iſſued from the Loan-Office of this State, greatly exceed all proportion which the quota of the public debt to be paid by this State bears to the whole ſum borrowed by the United States, being in the aggregate, 11,463,802 dollars, in ſpecie—of which ſum, certificates to the amount of 3,948,904 dollars, ſpecie value, were iſſued from the Loan-Office of this State, *i. e.* more than *one third* of all the *American* loans, although we are but about *one eighth* part of the union.

Second. Becauſe ſufficient diſcriminations have not been made between the original holders, and purchaſers, of certificates, for, while the law *affects* a diſcrimination of the alienated final ſettlement certificates, it admits all *alienated* certificates, however iſſued, either by Quarter-Maſters, Commiſſaries, or the Loan-Officer, to participate of the benefit of this act, in common with thoſe in the poſſeſſion of the original holders.

Third. Becauſe the ſame principle that juſtified the excluſion of the *alienated* army certificates, would operate, with full as great force and equity, for the excluſion of *alienated* certificates of every other deſcription, and equally conſiſtent with *public faith.*

Fourth. Becauſe the back lands offered an ample fund for the redemption of all alienated certificates, at an immenſe profit to ſuch as chooſe them; and ſuch as did not, could always have a ready ſale for their certificates (and frequently at a great advance upon the firſt purchaſe) to perſons who preferred lands: Thus might the State derive an eſſential benefit by a *proper* diſcrimination (of which it is now deprived) and the dealers in certificates be liberally compenſated, by *Pennſylvania,* for the confidence they placed in the *United States,* to whom they became voluntary creditors, at a price proportioned to a very diſtant period of payment.

Fifth. Becauſe a new tax is propoſed by this law, of *ſeventy-ſix thouſand nine hundred and forty-five pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence,* for paying the intereſt on certificates, at a time when there remains due to this State, between *four and five hundred thouſand pounds* (arrearages of taxes) excluſive of the duties ariſing from the impoſt, equal to one hundred thouſand pounds per annum, out of which the intereſt might have been paid in ſpecie, without impoſing any new or oppreſſive taxes upon our conſtituents at this period.

Sixth. Becauſe the tax is continued to the ſame amount in this law, as mentioned in the bill publiſhed for conſideration; wherefore the citizens of this State are not in the leaſt relieved from any part of the impoſition, notwithſtanding the excluſion of the *alienated* final ſettlement certificates; and whether it is juſt to compel the holders thereof (who are deprived of the benefit of this act) to contribute taxes for the payment of intereſt upon other *alienated* certificates, we leave to the impartial mind to determine.

Seventh. Becauſe the law requires an emiſſion of paper money, which we conceive to be of uncertain iſſue, as to its value; and calculated to promote ſpeculation, as well as to deſtroy confidence in government, and between man and man, by the apprehenſion of *tender laws.*

Eighth. Becauſe that part of the law which admits delinquents in payment of their arrearages of taxes, to diſcharge them in paper (probably at a depreciated value) is unjuſt and oppreſſive to the faithful citizens of the ſtate, who have paid their taxes in ſpecie, and is moreover a breach of faith contracted with the United States, whoſe requiſitions this ſtate, by *former laws,* have ſolemnly agreed to pay in ſpecie, and may eventually defeat that œconomical fœderal meaſure ſo much to be wiſhed for, reducing the intereſt by obtaining other loans, which might enable Congreſs to pay the principal bearing ſix per cent. with monies borrowed at four per cent. as mentioned in their act of the 26th of *April,* 1783.

Ninth. Becauſe paying the intereſt in paper (probably depreciated) will operate unjuſtly; for in that caſe, while we pay the widow, the orphan, and that brave and meritorious claſs of citizens, the late officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, and other original holders of certificates, perhaps *three* or *two* per cent. in real value, we pay the purchaſers (at two ſhillings in the pound) not leſs than *twenty* or *thirty* per cent.

Tenth. Becauſe a conſiderable number of the citizens of this State have not yet had their accounts liquidated, nor obtained *proper* certificates for articles furniſhed the United States, and therefore are for the preſent deprived of the benefit of this act, although their property muſt be taxed to pay the intereſt to *dealers* in Quarter Maſters and Commiſſaries certificates.

Eleventh. Becauſe the mode to enforce the collection of the taxes propoſed by this law is unſafe, new, arbitrary and oppreſſive.

Twelfth. Becauſe numerous petitions have been received againſt the ſaid law, from thoſe citizens and counties who ſtood foremoſt in their contributions of taxes in every ſtage of the late war, and becauſe there is reaſon to believe, had the law been delayed a few weeks longer, ſimilar petitions againſt it would have been preſented from almoſt every part of the ſtate.

Thirteenth. Becauſe the law for funding the depreciation certificates now in the poſſeſſion of the officers and ſoldiers upon the *exciſe,* is, in a great meaſure, abrogated by the funding law, to the great injury of public credit, and the diſhonor of the State, by making the duties ariſing thereon payable in paper; and becauſe the ſubjoined meaſure was * propoſed (providing effectual relief to the moſt meritorious and ſuffering part of the public creditors) and haſtily rejected by a majority of the Houſe, before they were fully informed of its principles, which we now claim the right of entering on the minutes of this Aſſembly, and ſubmit to our conſtituents for their deciſion.

Anthony Wayne,
Richard Willing,
James Ewing,
George Woods,
Charles Humphreys,
Thomas Potts,
David M'Conaughy,
Matthew Ritchie,
Robert Ralſton,

Edward Jones,
Joſeph Lilly,
Philip Gartner,
William Todd,
Henry Miller,
Robert Cluggage,
John Hay,
Henry Tyſon.

* *An* ACT *for appropriating the funds therein mentioned for the relief of ſuch of the ſuffering public creditors of the United States, as are citizens of this State.*

WHEREAS the United States in Congreſs Aſſembled, by their act of the eighteenth of *April*, 1783, did reſolve, that it be recommended to the ſeveral States, as indiſpenſably neceſſary to the reſtoration of public credit and the punctual and honorable diſcharge of the public debts, to inveſt the ſaid United States in Congreſs aſſembled with power to collect, for the uſe of the ſaid United States, certain duties upon goods therein enumerated, imported into any of the ſaid States from any foreign port, iſland or plantation; and alſo a duty of five per centum ad valorem upon all other goods, at the time and place of importation: provided, that none of the ſaid duties ſhould be applied to any other purpoſe than the diſcharge of the intereſt or principal of the debts, contracted on the faith of the United States, for ſupporting the war, nor be continued for a longer term than 25 years; which wiſe recommendation was adopted by the legiſlature of this ſtate, but the beneficial effects that ſhould have flowed therefrom have been unhappily prevented, by reaſon that all the ſtates have not adopted the ſame.

And whereas a great number of the citizens of this State, who lent their monies, furniſhed ſupplies, and rendered ſervices to the United States in the moſt perilous and preſſing times, have long laboured under ſevere diſtreſs, from the debt of the United States not having been aſcertained and funded, in ſuch manner, as that the intereſt thereof could be regularly paid, and the legiſlature, taking that matter into conſideration, did, by an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the 20th day of *March*, 1783, provide a temporary relief, by iſſuing Treaſurer's notes for the payment of one year's intereſt of certain debts of the United States:

And whereas the amount of the debt due from the United States is not aſcertained, but remains in part unknown, neither can it be aſcertained, except by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, yet there is every reaſon to conclude that the ſums due to citizens of this State for monies lent, ſupplies furniſhed, and ſervices performed by them, will exceed the proportion or quota which ought to be paid by this State: And it is the diſpoſition of this Houſe to make every poſſible effort to ſupport the credit of the United States, and at the ſame time to relieve the diſtreſſes of our own citizens who are creditors, which the circumſtances and ſituation of their conſtituents will bear, ſo it is their duty, as the repreſentatives of a free people, to aſcertain their ability as fully as it can be done, and be careful never to impoſe exceſſive burthens, leaſt a decay of national ſtrength be brought on: And as it is notorious that the diminution of our trade and agriculture, the conſequences of a long and grievous war, has leſſened the ability of all ranks of people to pay taxes, and that a conſiderable part of the taxes heretofore laid for the ſupport of the war has not been collected and paid, but is ſtill outſtanding, it would be highly unjuſt and unreaſonable to impoſe new taxes upon the well diſpoſed citizens, who have already paid their due proportion of the public burthens, and contrary to the principles of a free and equal government, for the eſtabliſhment of which ſo much blood and treaſure has been expended:

And whereas, experience has evinced, that impoſts on foreign manufactures and luxuries produce the moſt ſpeedy and effectual ſupplies for the public exigencies, diffuſe the burthen more equally upon all, by proportioning it to their ability and inclination to purchaſe and conſume them, and at the ſame time putting it in the power of every citizen to avoid the impoſt in whole or in part, by wearing and conſuming articles of home manufacture or of leſs coſt, which, though not quite ſo elegant or oſtentatious, are not leſs durable or wholeſome, a practice, that, beſides many other good conſequences, would have a tendency to bring the manners to that ſimplicity which ſo well becomes the inhabitants of a republic.

And whereas, the perſons who may have purchaſed public certificates or other ſecurities from the original creditors, could have had in view at the time of purchaſing the ſame, no other mode of receiving the ſeveral ſums mentioned in ſuch certificates or ſecurities, and the intereſt thereof, than ſuch as might be directed by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and did purchaſe the ſame at a diſcount proportioned to thoſe views and a very diſtant time of payment, wherefore they are not entitled at this time to the benefit of the extraordinary exertions now propoſed to be made in favour of the ſuffering original creditors, which exertions are not meant or intended in any manner whatſoever to interfere with, counteract or defeat the intentions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, with regard to the payment of the debts of the United States and the reſtoration of public credit, meaſures eſſentially neceſſary to the intereſt, the honor, and the ſafety of the empire:

And whereas, the monies ariſing from the duties and impoſts laid by an act of the General Aſſembly, paſſed the 23d day of *December*, 1780, and by another act of the ſame, paſſed the 25th of *September*, 1783, and by another act, paſſed the the 15th day of *March*, 1784, which have accrued, grown due, and been received ſince the firſt day of *November* laſt, are not at this time appropriated to any particular purpoſe, excepting only ſo much as ſhall be neceſſary to compleat the payment of 560,397 dollars, which were demanded by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their requiſition of the 27th of *April* laſt, and the annual ſum of £15,000 ſterling money of *Great Britain*, to be paid to the deviſees, legatees and repreſentatives of *Thomas Penn* and *Richard Penn*, late proprietaries of *Pennſylvania*, and it is conceived that the nett produce of the ſaid duties and impoſts, added to the unappropriated arrears of taxes heretofore laid and aſſeſſed in the city and the different counties of this ſtate, and which remained due and unpaid into the Treaſury on the firſt day of *November* laſt, will afford, if not full and adequate, yet at leaſt a comfortable and ſeaſonable relief to all the creditors of the United States, who were at the time the debt was contracted, continued to be, and ſtill are citizens of this State, and yet hold the certificates and ſecurities granted to them, and to the executors, adminiſtrators, legatees, heirs at law and next of kin of ſuch citizen-creditor, holding unalienated certificates and ſecurities in virtue of any will or legacy, or of letters of adminiſtration, or as heirs at law, or next of kin, from or of any citizen-creditor as aforeſaid, ſome time holding ſuch certificates or ſecurities, and to all ſocieties incorporated for benevolent purpoſes, and charitable inſtitutions, within this State, to which donations of ſuch certificates may have been made prior to the firſt of *January* laſt, until, by the unanimous concurrence of the ſeveral States, and the wiſdom of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, the whole debt of the United States ſhall be liquidated, aſcertained and funded, and the intereſt thereof ſecured, and made payable out of effective and adequate national ſupplies.

Be it therefore enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That all and ſingular the monies ariſing from the impoſts and duties laid and impoſed by the before mentioned acts of the General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, which have accrued, grown due, and been received ſince the firſt day of *November* laſt paſt, and all and ſingular the monies ariſing from the arrears of the taxes, which by the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly were laid and made payable in ſpecie, and were not collected and paid into the Treaſury on the firſt day of *November*, excepting only ſo much as ſhall be neceſſary to compleat the payment of 560,397 dollars, which were demanded by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their act of the 27th of *April* laſt, and the annual ſum of £15000, ſterling money of *Great Britain*, to be paid to the deviſees, legatees and repreſentatives of *Thomas Penn* and *Richard Penn*, late proprietaries of *Pennſylvania*, ſhall be, and the ſame are by virtue of this act declared to be a fund, for the purpoſe of giving relief to all the creditors of the United States, who were at the time the debt was contracted, continued to be, and ſtill are citizens of this ſtate, and who have not at any time alienated or tranferred the certificates or ſecurities granted to them for the ſame, and ſhall ſo remain, continue and be applied in ſuch manner as herein after directed, and to no other uſe or purpoſe whatſoever.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Comptroller-General ſhall forthwith provide books, wherein to regiſter all the creditors of the United States who ſhall come within the deſcription herein mentioned, and hereby intended to be relieved, and ſhall give public notice, by advertiſements to be inſerted in one *German* and three *Engliſh* news-papers of this city, to all perſons within ſuch deſcription, to apply to his office for the regiſtering their ſeveral claims, which he is hereby required and enjoined to do in alphabetical order, together with the dates of the certificates or ſecurities they may have reſpectively received for monies lent, ſupplies furniſhed, or ſervices performed, the amount of the ſum, and the time and amount of any payments of intereſt which have heretofore been made and endorſed thereon, with ſeveral blank ſpaces or columns left open to inſert the future payments of intereſt; and ſhall cauſe a duplicate of ſuch regiſtry, in all things conformable to the original, to be made, ſo far as the ſame ſhall be then compleated, and depoſited in the office of the Treaſurer on the 21ſt day of *June* next; and if all the claims entitled to be regiſtered ſhall not have been then made, he ſhall continue to receive them from time to time, as they are preſented, and regiſter them in the original book; and on the 21ſt day of *December*, and on the 21ſt day of *June*, in each year thereafter (except where either or both of theſe days ſhall fall upon *Sunday*, and in that caſe, on the days immediately ſucceeding) ſhall furniſh the Treaſurer with exact copies of ſuch late claims, which ſhall be added to the duplicate in the hands of the Treaſurer.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Comptroller-General ſhall, and he is hereby required and enjoined to regiſter in the ſaid book, all debts due from the United States for monies lent, ſupplies furniſhed, and ſervices performed for the United States, by all and every ſuch perſon or perſons, as at the time of lending ſuch monies, furniſhing ſuch ſupplies, and performing ſuch ſervices, were and have continued to be citizens of this State, and now have their homes therein, or that were officers or ſoldiers in the *Pennſylvania* line, or of the troops of this State, and have not at any time ſince the lending ſuch monies, furniſhing ſuch ſupplies, and performing ſuch ſervices, alienated or ſold their certificates or ſecurities which have been granted to them for ſuch debts, but have *bona fide* kept the ſame in their own right, and in their own poſſeſſion and power, during all the time aforeſaid, and of the debts due from the ſaid United States to the executors, adminiſtrators, legatees, heirs at law, or next of kin of ſuch citizens and inhabitants as aforeſaid, to whom unalienated debts have come or ſhall hereafter come and belong to, by virtue of any will, legacy, letters of adminiſtration, or as heirs at law, or next of kin of any ſuch citizens and inhabitants who now are or hereafter ſhall be deceaſed, or that may belong to any ſociety incorporated for benevolent purpoſes, or any charitable inſtitution within this State, by donation, prior to the 1ſt day of *January* laſt, and no other. And every perſon making application to regiſter any demand, ſhall, over and above the certificate that may have been granted for the debt, prove to the ſatisfaction of the Comptroller-General, upon oath or affirmation taken before him (which oath or affirmation he is hereby authoriſed and empowered to adminiſter) or by a written depoſition, taken before and ſubſcribed by the Prothonotary of ſome county of this State, that he, ſhe, or they, come within the deſcription aforeſaid. And if it ſhall be doubtful to the ſaid Comptroller-General, whether any perſon ſo applying to regiſter a debt do come within the ſaid deſcription, he ſhall forthwith tranſmit the vouchers and oath or affirmation produced, to the Supreme Executive Council, whoſe order therein ſhall be final and concluſive. And if any perſon or perſons ſhall think himſelf, herſelf, or themſelves, aggrieved by the determination of the Comptroller-General, upon the premiſes, it ſhall and may be lawful for him, her, or them, to appeal to the Supreme Executive Council, whoſe order thereupon ſhall be final and concluſive.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Treaſurer of the State, having received, from the Comptroller-General, the duplicate of the ſaid book of regiſtered debts, and having added up and aſcertained the whole amount thereof, and having ſettled his account of receipts, and aſcertained the whole amount of the monies appropriated to this fund, which ſhall be in his hands on the firſt days of *July* and *January*, in each year, ſhall proceed to make a dividend of the ſame (or ſo much thereof as will bear a diviſion without making a fraction of ten ſhillings in one hundred pounds) and ſhall tranſmit the whole to the Supreme Executive Council for their inſpection and approbation; and upon his receiving back, from the ſaid Council, the ſaid duplicate, together with a warrant for the ſaid payments, which warrant it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Supreme Executive Conncil to grant, he ſhall publiſh in the news-papers, for two weeks ſucceſſively, the whole amount of the regiſtered debts aforeſaid, the whole amount of the receipts from the Collector of the duties and impoſts, and from the county Treaſurers, and the neat amount of the ſum to be divided, with the rate or proportion per centum of the dividend; and the ſaid Treaſurer ſhall, on the 21ſt day of *July*, and the 21ſt day of *January*, in each year, begin the payment of the ſaid dividend to all perſons whoſe debts or claims ſhall be regiſtered in the ſaid duplicate, and ſhall continue to pay the ſame until the whole be paid; and ſhall endorſe on each certificate produced, the amount of each payment; and ſhall alſo inſert, in the ſaid duplicate book, in the proper columns reſerved for that purpoſe, the amount of the ſaid payments, and the time of making the ſame.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That this act, and the appropriation of the funds hereby made, ſhall be and continue in force for two years from and after the paſſing thereof, unleſs the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, ſhall ſooner fund the whole debts of the United States, and make proviſion for the payment of the intereſt thereof.

The bill entitled, " *An act to authoriſe the appointment of new Commiſſioners* " *to execute the act of Aſſembly, entitled,* " An act declaring the river *Suſque-* " *hanna*, and other ſtreams therein named, public highways; for improv- " ing the navigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams; and for preſerving the fiſh

“ in the ſame;” *and to extend the powers of the ſaid new Commiſſioners to all* “ *parts of the ſame river within this State,*” was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Todd* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Charles Beſſonet,* and *Gerſhom Johnſton,* read *March* 9, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Bucks,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to authoriſe the appointment of new Commiſſioners to execute the act of Aſſembly, en-* “ *titled,* “ An act declaring the river *Suſquehanna,* and other ſtreams therein “ named, public highways; for improving the navigation of the ſaid river “ and ſtreams; and for preſerving the fiſh in the ſame;” *and to extend the* “ *powers of the ſaid new Commiſſioners to all parts of the ſame river within* “ *this State;*” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to ſuſpend an act of the General Aſſembly of this* “ *Commonwealth, entitled,* “ A ſupplement to an act, entitled, “ An act to “ enable *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John* “ *Sellers, John Wilſon,* and *Joſeph Davis,* to build a new Court-Houſe, and “ Priſon, in the county of *Cheſter*; and ſell the old Court-Houſe and Priſon, “ in the borough of *Cheſter,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for ſuſpending the act which empowers the county commiſſioners to lay and aſſeſs a further tax upon the ſeveral counties to be paid in State money, provided nevertheleſs, that if after the arrearages now due are collected, it ſhall appear, that any ſum of ſaid money remains ſtill in circulation, the ſame ſhall be quotaed and laid upon the ſeveral counties in order that the whole may be entirely ſunk.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kuhl,* Mr. *Coats* and Mr. *J. Clark,* be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to en-* “ *large the ſummary juriſdiction of the Juſtices of the Peace in actions of debt or* “ *demand, to ſums not exceeding ten pounds; and to declare demands for ſpirit-* “ *uous liquors delivered in ſmall quantities, not recoverable; and to repeal an act* “ *entitled,* “ A ſupplement to an act for the more eaſy and ſpeedy recovery “ of ſmall debts.” And having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer contained in the petition of *Charles Beſſonet*, and *Gerſhom Johnſton*, read *March* 9.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, dividing the county of *Waſhington* into four diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their annual elections.

Ordered, That the commitee who brought in the report, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A petition from ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that the navigation of the river *Delaware* is of great importance to ſaid county, and to the State at large; that it would encreaſe the articles, and facilitate the means of exportation, upon which the mercantile, and the general proſperity of this Commonwealth materially depend. That they are informed, and believe, that great and valuable improvements may be made in the ſaid river, and its navigable branches, at a very inconſiderable expence: therefore, pray, that the Commiſſioners appointed to aſcertain what iſlands in the river belong to *Pennſylvania*, may be authoriſed and inſtructed to examine the river, and its navigable branches in this State, and to report to the Houſe, what ſum of money would be neceſſary to remove obſtructions, deepen the water, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from ſundry officers and privates of the militia of the county of *Cumberland*, was read, ſtating divers ſervices rendered by them on the application of the civil power of the county, and as the militia law makes no proviſion for ſuch ſervices, pray relief from this Houſe in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petitions from ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, praying a removal of the ſeat of juſtice, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That this Houſe will, during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion, adjourn to meet at nine o'clock on each ſucceeding day, any reſolution to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to enable the Agent or Agents of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to ſue for and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to them in this State*;" and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *James Vanſant*,
3. *William Coats*,
4. *Thomas Long*,
5. *John Clark*,
6. *Joſeph Thomas*,
7. *John Keller*,
8. *Arthur Erwin*,

YEAS.

9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *James Mercer*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *Samuel Boyd*,
15. *James Porter*,
16. *William Stoy*,

YEAS.

17. *David Jenkins*,
18. *Robert Craig*,
19. *Robert Clark*,
20. *Frederick Watts*,
21. *William Brown*,
22. *Robert Whitehill*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Jonas Hartzel*,
25. *Abraham Lincoln*,
26. *David Davis*,
27. *Philip Kreemer*,
28. *Peter Burkhalter*,

YEAS.

29. *John Ralſton*,
30. *Frederick Antes*,
31. *Daniel Montgomery*,
32. *Samuel Dale*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *John M‘Dowell*,
35. *John Smiley*,
36. *James Johnſton*,
37. *Abraham Smith*,
38. *James M‘Calmont*,
39. *George Smith*,
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Manuel Eyre*,
2. *Richard Willing*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Thomas Potts*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
8. *Henry Miller*,
9. *John Hay*,

NAYS.

10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M‘Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *Matthew Ritchie*.
16. *Peter Richards*,
17. *Robert Loller*,

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 17, 1785, A. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A *MESSAGE from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have this day received the incloſed letter from the governor of the State of *New-York*, with the copy of the act therein mentioned.

Circumſtances requiring that the boundary line ſhould be run and aſcertained with all convenient diſpatch, we hope for an early determination of your honourable Houſe, upon this buſineſs.

JOHN DICKINSON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
PHILADELPHIA, *March* 17, 1785.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to, were alſo read.

The petition of the Managers of the Houſe of Employment, read *March* 9, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the City Members, to report a bill if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of *Catharine Pennington*, read *February* 28, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of a conſiderable number of the freeholders and inhabitants of the *Northern-Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 24, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Members for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Members laſt mentioned, be a committee for the purpoſe of viſiting the Houſe of Employment, and to report the ſtate thereof, to this Houſe.

The report of the committee, read *March* 15, on the petition of *Van Swearingen*, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, reſpecting *Thomas Paine*, eſquire.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to authoriſe " the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the Treaſurer of this State, " for the ſum of   pounds, in favour of *Thomas Paine*, eſquire, " as a temporary recompence for the eminent ſervices rendered to *America*, " during the late revolution, by the ſaid *Thomas Paine*, until the United " States in Congreſs aſſembled, may adopt a fœderal plan for a ſuitable reward therefor."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*, to fill up the blank, with the words "*five hundred*." Whereupon.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown*, and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *Thomas Long*,
10. *John Clark*,
11. *Joſeph Thomas*,
12. *Arthur Erwin*,
13. *Richard Willing*,
14. *Anthony Wayne*,
15. *Edward Jones*,
16. *Robert Ralſton*,
17. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
18. *Perſifor Frazer*,
19. *Thomas Potts*,
20. *James Mercer*,
21. *John Craig*,

YEAS.

22. *Samuel Boyd*,
23. *James Porter*,
24. *William Stoy*,
25. *David Jenkins*,
26. *Henry Miller*,
27. *James Ewing*,
28. *Joſeph Lilly*,
29. *Frederick Watts*,
30. *John Harris*,
31. *Robert Whitehill*,
32. *Abraham Lincoln*,
33. *Chriſtian Lower*,
34. *Philip Kreemer*,
35. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
36. *Peter Burkhalter*,
37. *John Ralſton*,
38. *George Woods*,
39. *Frederick Antes*,
40. *Daniel Montgomery*,
41. *John Smiley*,
42. *James Johnſton*,

YEAS.

43. *Abraham Smith,*
44. *Peter Richards,*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith,*
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Humphreys,*
2. *Adam Orth,*
3. *Robert Craig,*
4. *Robert Clark,*
5. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *David M'Conaughy,*
9. *Henry Tyſon,*
10. *William Brown,*
11. *David Davis,*
12. *Robert Brown,*
13. *Jonas Hartzel,*
14. *Robert Cluggage,*
15. *Samuel Dale,*
16. *Thomas Morton,*
17. *Matthew Ritchie,*
18. *John M'Dowell.*
19. *James M'Calmont.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the reſolution with the amendment adopted.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill entitled, " *An act for incorporating the* German Lutheran *Congregation, of* Germantown *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the State of* Pennſylvania," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *A further ſupplement to the act entitled,* " An act for raiſing county rates and levies,"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" SECT. 3. *Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That from and after the paſſing of this act, if any of the commiſſioners of any of the counties of this ſtate, ſhall happen to die, or ſhall miſbehave in his ſaid office, and ſhall therefor be legally removed, or ſhall remove his place of abode, out of the bounds of the proper county, or if ſuch Commiſſioners ſhall, on account of ſickneſs or bodily infirmity, or other good cauſe, be excuſed or diſmiſſed from his ſaid office, by the other Commiſſioners of the county (ſuch diſmiſſion to be approved of by the Juſtices of the Peace of the ſame county met in Quarter Seſſions) or if any perſon who ſhall, from and after the paſſing of this act, be duly elected or appointed to ſerve as one of the Commiſſioners, ſhall neglect or refuſe to take upon himſelf the ſaid office, that in any of the caſes aforeſaid, and in any other caſe wherein a vacancy in the number of Commiſſioners of any county ſhall happen, that the remaining Commiſſioners of the ſame county, ſhall, at their next meeting, nominate and appoint ſome ſuitable perſon to fill ſuch vacancy; and if two or more vacancies in the office of county Commiſſioners ſhall happen to be in the ſame county at the ſame time, then ſuch vacancy ſhall be filled by the nomination and appointment of *the Supreme Executive Council, conformably to the twentieth ſection of the Frame of Government of this Commonwealth;* and every ſuch appointment by the ſaid Commiſſioners, in caſe the perſon ſo appointed ſhall take upon himſelf the ſaid office, ſhall be certified by the other Commiſſioners, under their hands and ſeals (within twenty days after ſuch perſon ſhall take the oath or affirmation of office) to the Juſtices

“ of the Peace of the county, and the ſaid certificate, together with the ſaid oath or affirmation in writing, taken before two Juſtices of the Peace, of the county, ſhall be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Quarter-Seſſions, and the Juſtices of the Peace of the county, at their next Quarter-Seſſions of the Peace, ſhall direct the certificates of ſuch appointment to be recorded as in caſe of returns into the ſaid office by the Judges of Elections is directed by the act of Aſſembly firſt before recited; and the Supreme Executive Council of this State, upon all appointments of County Commiſſioners by them made as aforeſaid, ſhall certify the ſame, under the Leſſer Seal, to the Juſtices of the Peace of the proper county, in order that a ſecond may be made, as in other caſes.”

It was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *W. Brown* to ſtrike out the words “*the Supreme Executive Council, conformably to the twentieth ſection of the Frame of Government of this Commonwealth*.” And on the queſtion, “*Shall the ſame be ſtruck out?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Whitehill*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *Thomas Long*,
5. *John Clark*,
6. *Joſeph Thomas*,
7. *John Keller*,
8. *Arthur Erwin*,
9. *Richard Willing*,
10. *Anthony Wayne*,
11. *Edward Jones*,
12. *Robert Ralſton*,
13. *Thomas Potts*,
14. *Charles Humphreys*,
15. *James Mercer*,
16. *John Craig*,
17. *Adam Orth*,
18. *Samuel Boyd*,
19. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
20. *Henry Miller*,
21. *John Hay*,
22. *Philip Gartner*,
23. *James Ewing*,
24. *David M'Conaughy*,
25. *Henry Tyſon*,
26. *Joſeph Lilly*,
27. *Frederick Watts*,
28. *William Brown*,
29. *Jonas Hartzel*,
30. *John Ralſton*,
31. *George Woods*,
32. *Robert Cluggage*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *Matthew Ritchie*,
35. *James M'Calmont*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *William Coats*,
5. *Perſifor Frazer*,
6. *James Porter*,
7. *William Stoy*,
8. *David Jenkins*,
9. *Robert Craig*,
10. *Robert Clark*,
11. *John Harris*,
12. *Robert Whitehill*,
13. *Abraham Lincoln*,
14. *David Davis*,
15. *Philip Kreemer*,
16. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
17. *Peter Burkhalter*,
18. *Robert Brown*,
19. *Frederick Antes*,
20. *Daniel Montgomery*,
21. *Samuel Dale*,
22. *Thomas Morton*,
23. *John M'Dowell*,
24. *John Smiley*,
25. *James Johnſton*,
26. *Abraham Smith*,
27. *Robert Loller*,
28. *George Smith*,
29. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 18, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, were read, ſetting forth, that conſiderable ſums of money are due to the inhabitants of ſaid county, for ſupplies furniſhed the armies of the United States, and for which they have not received ſufficient vouchers, therefore praying their accounts may be liquidated, and certificates given therefor, be receivable in payment of all taxes that now are, or hereafter may be aſſeſſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Long* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The following letter from his excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council of this State, was preſented to the Chair and read as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *March* 17, 1785.

SIR,

INCLOSED are ſeveral papers relating to captain *Houſton's* demands againſt the State, and as we cannot afford him relief, we recommend his caſe to the General Aſſembly.

I am with great regard, Sir,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The honorable the Speaker.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the diſtillers of Molaſſes within the city of *Philadelphia*, and the *Northern Liberties*, was read, ſetting forth, that the diſtilling of Molaſſes into rum, is one of thoſe branches of manufacture, if properly encouraged, might be carried on to the great benefit of the State, and ſtating certain grievances they labour under, occaſioned by the exciſe laws now in force, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moreland* and *Abington*, in the county of *Montgomery*, were read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Memorials and repreſentations from the Juſtices and Grand Juries of the counties of *York*, *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, were read, ſuggeſting the propriety of reducing the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors and the price of the licence to retailers thereof, in the weſtern counties of this State.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin*, read *December* 7, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city of *Philadelphia* and the county of *Bucks*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Dale*, be a committee to bring in a bill to repeal the act entitled, "*An act to carry into immediate "effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the "claims of individuals of this Commonwealth, againſt the ſaid United States.*"

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entitled, "*An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in the ſeveral gaols of this Commonwealth*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, "*An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures, which interfere with them*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to veſt the perſonal eſtate of the late corporation of the mayor and commonalty of the city of* Philadelphia, *in the wardens of the ſaid city, and to direct the immediate ſale of the old gaol and workhouſe of the county of* Philadelphia, *and to appropriate the ſaid perſonal eſtate and part of the monies to ariſe from the ſale of the ſaid gaol and workhouſe to the building of two court houſes, one for the ſaid city, the other for the ſaid county, on the State Hoaſe lot, in the ſaid city, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive Council of this Commonwealth to appoint all officers civil and military, except in the caſes reſerved by the conſtitution to the General Aſſembly and to the people; and to repeal the laws, whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto, and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller General by a commiſſion for ſeven years and a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good behaviour only.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And whereas it is highly proper that the office of Comptroller General ſhould be rendered ſo far independent, as to enable the perſon holding the ſame, to execute his truſt and duties with vigour and integrity: *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the Comptroller General of this State ſhall hereafter be commiſſioned by the Executive Council for and during the term of ſeven years, upon condition that he behave himſelf well in his ſaid office; and that the ſalary of the ſaid Comptroller General ſhall be eight hundred pounds per annum, for himſelf and his clerks, payable to him quarterly, in equal portions, by orders drawn by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, on the Treaſurer of this State out of any of the unappropriated money of this Commonwealth."

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown*, and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Watts,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*

YEAS.

11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *James Mercer,*
15. *John Craig,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *James Porter,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Craig.*
20. *Robert Clark,*

YEAS.

21. *Robert Whitehill,*
22. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
23. *Robert Brown,*
24. *Jonas Hartzel,*
25. *John Ralſton,*
26. *Frederick Antes,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *Samuel Dale,*
29. *William Finley,*
30. *Thomas Morton,*

YEAS.

31. *John M'Dowell,*
32. *John Smiley,*
33. *James Johnſton,*
34. *Abraham Smith,*
35. *James M'Calmont,*
36. *Peter Richards,*
37. *Robert, Loller,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *John Keller,*
2. *Richard Willing,*
3. *Anthony Wayne,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Thomas Potts,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

12. *Henry Miller,*
13. *David M'Conaughy,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *William Brown,*
16. *Abraham Lincoln,*
17. *David Davis,*
18. *Philip Kreemer,*
19. *George Woods,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the act of Aſſembly, entitled, " *An act for raiſing a further impoſt, or duty, on all goods, wares, and merchandize, imported into this State,*" enacted on the fifteenth day of *March*, 1784, ſo far as the ſame act appointed *Sharp Delany*, eſq. Collector of the ſaid impoſt, or duty, ſhall be, and the ſame is hereby repealed, and made null and void."

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Woods*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *James Porter,*

YEAS.

16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Robert Whitehill,*
20. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *Thomas Morton,*
28. *John M'Dowell,*
29. *John Smiley,*
30. *James Johnſton,*

YEAS.

31. *Abraham Smith,*
32. *James M‘Calmont,*
33. *Peter Richards,*

YEAS.

34. *Robert Loller,*
35. *George Smith,*
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Thomas Potts,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

11. *David M‘Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *William Brown,*
15. *David Davis,*
16. *Philip Kreemer,*
17. *George Woods,*
18. *Robert Cluggage,*
19. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the Preſident " or Vice Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, be and they are " hereby authoriſed and empowered to proceed as ſoon as may be to appoint " and commiſſionate all and every ſuch public officer and officers, as may be " neceſſary to fill the offices deemed to be vacated by this act, as they may or " ought to appoint and commiſſionate by virtue of the conſtitution of this " Commonwealth or of this act, any law, uſage, or cuſtom to the contrary " notwithſtanding.

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *W. Brown*, and Mr. *Woods*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *James Porter,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*

YEAS.

19. *Robert Whitehill,*
20. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *Thomas Morton,*
28. *John M‘Dowell.*
29. *John Smiley,*
30. *James Johnſton,*
31. *Abraham Smith,*
32. *James M‘Calmont.*
33. *Peter Richards,*
34. *Robert Loller,*
35. *George Smith,*
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Anthony Wayne,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Thomas Potts,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *William Brown,*
15. *Abraham Lincoln,*
16. *David Davis,*
17. *Philip Kreemer,*
18. *George Woods,*
19. *Robert Cluggage,*
20. *Matthew Ritchie,*

So it was determined in the affirmative and the clauſe adopted.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs: On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for* "*public conſideration?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne*, and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *John Keller,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *John Craig,*
13. *Adam Orth,*
14. *James Porter,*
15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Craig,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*

YEAS.

19. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
20. *Robert Brown,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *Thomas Morton,*
28. *John M'Dowell,*
29. *John Smiley,*
30. *James Johnſton,*
31. *Abraham Smith,*
32. *James M'Calmont,*
33. *Peter Richards,*
34. *Robert Loller,*
35. *George Smith,*
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys,*
2. *Richard Willing,*
3. *Anthony Wayne,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Thomas Potts,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

12. *David M'Conaughy,*
13. *Henry Tyſon,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *William Brown,*
16. *Abraham Lincoln,*
17. *David Davis,*
18. *Philip Kreemer,*
19. *George Woods,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion, *Ordered,* That to-morrow be aſſigned to take up, for a third reading, the bill entitled, " *An act for erecting and opening a Loan-Office, for* " *the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds.*"

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Thomas Pritchett,* was read, praying to be appointed Inſpector of Salt Proviſions, within the port of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Hazael Thomas,* in behalf of himſelf and others, of the ſociety of the Seven-Day *Baptiſts,* within the county of *Cheſter,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of incorporating the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Shepherd,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 18, laſt, was preſented to the Chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Tucker,* read *December* 8, laſt, was read the ſecond time.—And on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The petition of *Jacob Van Foſſen,* read *February* 18, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Members from the county of *Montgomery,* to report thereon.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, with its incloſures, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *M‘Pherſon,* Mr. *Harris,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Woods,* and Mr. *Smiley,* be a committee to bring in a bill agreeable to the act of the Legiſlature of the State of *New-York,* referred to in ſaid Meſſage.

The report of the committee, read *March* 16, on the petitions for removing the Seat of Juſtice, from the town of *Sunbury,* to the town of *Northumberland,* in the county of *Northumberland,* was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That the Members from *Northumberland* county, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill entitled, " *An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *Congregation* " *of* Cheſnut-Level, *in the townſhip of* Drumore, *and county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *Church, of* " Falling-Spring, *in* Guilford *townſhip, in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *A further* " *ſupplement to the act, entitled,* " An act for raiſing county rates and levies," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 19, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *George Wright*, read *March* 4, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Montgomery* to report thereon.

The petition of *Ann Rhoads*, read *February* 22, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Richards* to report thereon.

The committee to whom were referred the ſeveral petitions for and againſt building a bridge over *Neſhaminy* creek, near the preſent ferry; made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, "*An act to re-eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the borough of* Briſtol *in the* "*county of* Bucks;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe took up for a third reading the bill entitled, "*An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office for the ſum* "*of fifty thouſand pounds.*" And debated the ſame in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *March* 4, on the letter from lieutenant colonel *James Moore*; was read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion, "*Will* "*the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of Northumberland, were read, praying the Houſe to take into conſideration, the fees taken by the preſent land officers of the ſtate, as they conceive them to be high and exorbitant, and creating too great and rapid fortunes for any one man; and repreſenting that the expence of taking out a warrant for land prior to the revolution, was but eight ſhillings and ſixpence, and that the fees now taken are one pound eight ſhillings and ſixpence; that if there be law for theſe fees, they conſider them very extraordinary, and want moderating, if there be no law therefor, they beg leave to refer the Houſe to the twenty-ſixth article of the Conſtitution, where it ſays, "All officers ſhall "be paid an adequate, but moderate compenſation for their ſervices, and if "any officer ſhall take greater or other fees than the laws allow him, either "directly or indirectly, it ſhall ever after diſqualify him from holding any "office in the State;" and ſtating grievances in reſpect to the deputy ſurveyors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereas it will be neceſſary in order to aſcertain the fees of the officers of the land office, of this ſtate, that the advantages and profits which have accrued to them ſeverally ſhould be known, therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire concerning the advantages and profits which the officers of the land office of this ſtate have ſeverally received from the ſaid offices, under the preſent laws.

Ordered, That Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Johnſton*, and Mr. *A. Smith* be a committee for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

A petition from the German Society contributing for the relief of diſtreſſed *Germans* in the State of *Pennſylvania*, was read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under, and praying this Houſe by law to eſtabliſh an office for regiſtering of all *German* paſſengers who ſhall arrive at the port of *Philadelphia*, and of ſuch of them as ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight under ſuch ſpecial orders and regulations as the Houſe may think proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for the ſupport of government*," read the firſt time *February* 16, was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this* "*State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures,* "*which interfere with them*," read the firſt time *March* 18, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for the better regulation of juries*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *March* 21, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Robert Harris* was read, ſetting forth that he was employed by the late Committee of Safety to manufacture a quantity of ſalt-petre into gun-powder, and for that purpoſe erected a powder mill, and contracted with a number of artificers, *&c.* of character and abilities, who might be depended upon; that relying upon the reſolutions and declarations of that committee for indemnity and ſupport, he put himſelf to very conſiderable expence and trouble; that during the ſhifting of the boards of the Committee of Safety and Council of Safety to that of the General Aſſembly, he hath ſuffered much in this undertaking, and by reaſon of the loſs (as it was ſaid) of books and papers relative thereto he was not enabled to get his accounts adjuſted or taken into conſideration, until the year 1779, or 1780, when the auditors of accounts took them up, but they conceiving themſelves not ſufficiently authoriſed to undertake the matter, could only act in a partial manner, and in that way adjuſted the accounts. Therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of merchants, millers, and others, purchaſers of grain and ſalt, in the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſuggeſting the impropriety of reviving the office of meaſuring ſalt and grain, and praying the ſame may be diſcontinued.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of this ſtate were read, praying a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Heidleberg* in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Lancaſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Bauſman*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of enabling him to eſtabliſh a ferry over the *Monongahela*, at the town of *Pittſburg*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Cox*, read in the late Aſſembly, *February* 10, 1784, was preſented to the chair and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, for and againſt building a bridge over *Neſhaminy*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over *Neſhaminy*, near the preſent ferry,

Ordered, That the ſame committee bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

A petition from *Andrew Bunner* was read, ſetting forth, that his brother *Rudolph Bunner*, late a Lieutenant-Colonel in the *Pennſylvania* Line, was unfortunately killed at the battle of *Monmouth*, and praying his accounts may be ſettled and adjuſted; and the depreciation and other emoluments allowed to officers of equal rank, may be granted to the heirs of the ſaid deceaſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read *March* 4, were read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from the county of *Montgomery* to report thereon.

The petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitanrs of the county of *Northumberland*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Johnſton* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

A petition from Major-General *James Potter* was read, ſetting forth, that whilſt in the ſervice as Brigadier-General of the militia, from the then depreciated ſtate of the paper currency, his pay, when received, did not equal the hire of his ſervants and horſes; that the officers of the *Pennſylvania* Line had their accounts liquidated, and certificates of depreciation given them: they have alſo received commutation in lieu of half-pay, while he has ſuffered equally, and was as long, and conſtantly in ſervice, as many of them; that his caſe differs from that of his brother militia-officers in this particular; that he was in actual ſervice at one time for upwards of eighteen months; that he is acquainted with the public debt, and does not wiſh to encreaſe it, but that if his ſervices merit the attention of the Houſe, and if they ſhould think he has a juſt claim on the Commonwealth for ſome compenſation, prays to have the pre-emption to a tract of land granted him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county were read, repreſenting that the bank eſtabliſhed at *Phladelphia* has fatal effects upon the Community; that whilſt men are enabled, by means of the bank, to receive near three times the rate of common intereſt, and at the ſame time to receive their money at very ſhort warning, whenever they have occaſion for it, it will be impoſſible for the huſbandman or mechanic to borrow on the former terms of legal intereſt and diſtant payments of the principal; that the beſt ſecurity will not enable the perſon to borrow; that experience clearly demonſtrates the miſchievous conſequences of this inſtitution to the fair trader; that impoſtors have been enabled to ſupport themſelves in a fictitious

credit

credit, by means of a temporary punctuality at the bank, until they have drawn in their honeſt neighbours to truſt them with their property, or to pledge their credit as ſureties, and have been finally involved in ruin and diſtreſs; that they have repeatedly ſeen the ſtopping of diſcounts at the bank, operate on the trading part of the Community, with a degree of violence ſcarcely inferior to that of a ſtagnation of the blood in the human body, hurrying the wretched merchant who hath debts to pay into the hands of griping uſurers; that the Directors of the bank may give ſuch preference in trade, by advances of money, to their particular favourites, as to deſtroy that equality which ought to prevail in a commercial country; that paper money has often proved beneficial to the ſtate, but the bank forbids it, and the people muſt acquieſce: therefore, and in order to reſtore public confidence and private ſecurity, they pray that a bill may be brought in and paſſed into a law for repealing the law for incorporating the bank.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given a member preſented to the Chair a Bill, entitled, "*A ſupplement to the poor laws of this Commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, "An "act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled, "*An act to carry into immediate "effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting "the claims of individuals of this Commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States;*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entitled, "*An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined "in the ſeveral gaols of this Commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill, entitled, "*An act to authoriſe and enable the Supreme Executive "Council to appoint Commiſſioners to join with the Commiſſioners appointed, or to "be appointed, on the part of the State of* New-York, *to aſcertain the Northern "Boundary of this State, from the river* Delaware, *weſtward, to the North-"weſt corner of* Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean-time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, "*An "act for confirming a road, and eſtabliſhing a ferry, and erecting a bridge, "acroſs the* Neſhaminy *creek;*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon,

In order to enable the ſeveral Committees to proceed to the buſineſs now before them.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday

Tueſday, March 22, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and memorial from *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox* in behalf of themſelves and *John Anderſon,* was read, ſetting forth, that on the ninth day of *January,* 1775, warrants were obtained for ten tracts of land of three hundred acres each, and the full conſideration-money paid therefor to the Receiver-General of the late proprietaries; that the late war, ſoon after commencing, further proceedings in the buſineſs were unavoidably ſuſpended; that upon an application to the Surveyor of the diſtrict, they were informed that the Surveyor did not think himſelf fully juſtified in ſurveying thoſe lands without farther authority, as he conceived them to be without the limits of the former *Indian* purchaſe, therefore praying they may be entitled to the right of pre-emption to the lands aforeſaid, either by a clauſe for that purpoſe inſerted in the bill now under conſideration, relative to the opening of the Land-Office, or by ſuch other means as to this Houſe ſhall ſeem moſt juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Jacob Bauſman,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Hazael Thomas,* in behalf of himſelf and others, read *March* 18, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition from divers inhabitants of *Philadelphia,* read *March* 1, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the City Members to report thereon.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſetting forth, that in reviſing the accounts of *Joſeph Montgomery,* Eſquire, as a Delegate in Congreſs, he hath diſcovered an error to the prejudice of the State.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the letter from Brigadier-General *William Irvine,* poſtponed *December* 3 laſt.

Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the purchaſe-money for *Montour*'s iſland ſhall be thirty pounds per hundred acres, payable according to the conditions of payment for lands in the laſt purchaſe.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that conſiderable ſums of money are due for articles furniſhed, and ſervices performed, in carrying on the late war, and praying proper perſons may be appointed to liquidate their accounts, and certificates granted for the ſame, receivable in payment of all taxes, or in the patenting of lands; and that the ſame certificates may be made transferable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee, read *December* 23 laſt, touching the vote of the late Houſe reſpecting *Samuel Miles,* Eſquire, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Your Committee appointed to report a reſolution on the vote of the late Houſe, touching *Samuel Miles,* Eſquire, as he was thereby protected, beg leave to report,

That by proviſion for that purpoſe made in the Conſtitution of this Commonwealth, the powers of government are wiſely diſtributed and ſevered, thereby precluding an accumulation of improper power and influence in the hands of one or of few, which has ever been productive of tyranny and deſpotiſm, and trial by jury in all caſes is ſecured to the citizens of this State; and every officer of State, whether Judicial or Executive, is liable to an impeachment and trial before the Executive Council; Therefore,

Reſolved, That the caſe of *Samuel Miles*, Eſquire, was not a proper ſubject for the exerciſe of Legiſlative power; and that the vote of the General Aſſembly of the 15th day of *March*, 1784, acquitting the ſaid *Samuel Miles*, Eſquire, of certain charges ſuggeſted againſt him by the Comptroller-General in his letter to the Houſe, was an unwarrantable aſſumption of Judicial and Executive power, and that the General Aſſembly had no authority to judge of criminal offences ſo far as either to acquit or condemn any perſon; and that the aforeſaid reſolution acquitting the ſaid *Samuel Miles*, Eſquire, is hereby reſcinded:

Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, "*to read the letter* "*from the Comptroller-General, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly February* 13, "1784, *and the other papers relative thereto*;"

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be read?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Willing*, and are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,
8. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
9. *Henry Miller*,
10. *John Hay*,
11. *Philip Gartner*,

YEAS.

12. *James Ewing*,
13. *David M‘Conaughy*,
14. *Henry Tyſon*,
15. *Joſeph Lilly*,
16. *William Brown*,
17. *George Woods*,
18. *Robert Cluggage*,
19. *Thomas Morton*,
20. *Matthew Ritchie*,
21. *Benjamin Rittſnhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Joſeph Thomas*,
8. *John Keller*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *James Mercer*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *Samuel Boyd*,
15. *James Porter*,
16. *William Stoy*,
17. *David Jenkins*,
18. *Robert Craig*.
19. *Robert Clark*,
20. *Frederick Watts*,
21. *John Harris*,

NAYS.

22. *Robert Whitehill*,
23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *Abraham Lincoln*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Philip Kreemer*,
27. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
28. *Peter Buckhalter*,
29. *Robert Brown*,
30. *John Ralſton*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Daniel Montgomery*,
33. *Samuel Dale*,
34. *William Finley*,
35. *John M‘Dowell*,
36. *John Smiley*,
37. *Abraham Smith*,
38. *James M‘Calmont*,
39. *Peter Richards*,
40. *Robert Loller*,
41. *George Smith*.

So it was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Boys*, to ſtrike out the words " and that the aforeſaid reſolution acquitting the ſaid *Samuel Miles*, " Eſquire, is hereby reſcinded."

And the yeas and nays being called thereon by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Woods*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
10. *Henry Miller,*
11. *John Hay,*

YEAS.

12. *Philip Gartner,*
13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M'Conaughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *George Woods,*
18. *Robert Cluggage,*
19. *Thomas Morton,*
20. *Matthew Ritchie,*
21. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *John Keller,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *James Mercer,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *Samuel Boyd,*
13. *James Porter,*
14. *William Stoy,*
15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Craig,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Frederick Watts,*
19. *John Harris,*
20. *William Brown,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*

NAYS.

22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *Abraham Lincoln,*
24. *Chriſtian Lower,*
25. *David Davis,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *John Ralſton,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *Samuel Dale,*
34. *William Finley,*
35. *John M'Dowell,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *Abraham Smith,*
38. *James M'Calmont,*
39. *Peter Richards,*
40. *Robert Loller,*
41. *George Smith.*

So it was carried in the negative; whereupon,

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the original report of their Committee?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Ritchie*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *John Clark,*

YEAS.

7. *John Keller,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *James Mercer,*
11. *John Craig,*
12. *Adam Orth,*

YEAS.

13. *Samuel Boyd,*
14. *James Porter,*
15. *William Stoy,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *John Harris,*
21. *William Brown,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*
23. *Nicholas Lutz,*
24. *Abraham Lincoln,*
25. *David Davis,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*

YEAS.

29. *Robert Brown,*
30. *Jonas Hartzel,*
31. *John Ralſton,*
32. *Frederick Antes,*
33. *Daniel Montgomery,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *John M'Dowell,*
37. *John Smiley,*
38. *Abraham Smith,*
39. *James M'Calmont,*
40. *Peter Richards,*
41. *Robert Loller,*
42. *George Smith,*
43. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
10. *Henry Miller,*
11. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

12. *Philip Gartner,*
13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M'Conaughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *Chriſtian Lower,*
18. *George Woods.*
19. *Robert Cluggage,*
20. *Thomas Morton,*
21. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the report adopted.

The Committee on the petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, reſpecting the removal of the court-houſe from *Newtown* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, “ An “ act to ſuſpend the levying of more than three of the taxes of £. 93,640 10 0 “ per annum, which were directed to be laid and levied by an act, entitled, “ *A ſupplement to an act, entitled,* “ *An act for funding and redeeming the* “ *bills of credit of the United States of* America ; *and for providing means to* “ *bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion* ;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, “ *An* “ *act to enable* “ *to build a new courthouſe and priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to* “ *ſell the courthouſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury ;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *W. Brown* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and memorial from *Matthew Bennet* and others, late officers of the flying-camp of this State, was read, ſetting forth, that they were captured at *Fort Waſhington* in 1776, and continued in captivity for four years; therefore praying their accounts of pay, rations and depreciation, may be adjuſted, and that they may be allowed the ſame proportion of lands as were allotted to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ebenezer Auguſtus Smith*, late a ſecond ſurgeon in the General Hoſpital, was read, praying to be entitled to the benefits and emoluments given to officers of equal rank in the ſame department.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of Brigadier-General *James Potter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Finley* and Mr. *Smiley*, to report thereon.

The report of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Lancaſter*, in conjunction with a member of the Houſe of Aſſembly, relative to the robbery ſaid to have been committed on *Jacob Fautz*, read in the late Aſſembly *September* 23 laſt, was called for, and read,

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed *March* 12, on the petitions of *Hugh Cunningham* and *Abner Cloud*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed *March* 15, on the petition of *Henry Bedkin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee read *March* 3, on the petition of the Managers of *Newark* lottery, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill, agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair, a Bill, entitled, "*An act to eſtabliſh a ferry from the ſouth-weſt ſide of the* Monongahela, *oppoſite* "*the town of* Pittſburgh," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the Chair a Bill, entitled, "*An act for declaring* "*the acts of Aſſembly which give the authority of Juſtices of the Peace to the* "*chief burgeſs of the borough of* Lancaſter, *and to the burgeſſes of the boroughs* "*of* Carliſle *and* Reading, *to be ſo far contrary to the Conſtitution; and to* "*repeal the ſame acts ſo far as they contradict the conſtitution*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill, entitled, "*An act for incorporating the* German Lutheran *congregation of* Germantown *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the State* "*of* Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for confirming a road, and eſtabliſhing a ferry,* "*and erecting a bridge, acroſs* Neſhaminy *creek*," was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, " An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled, " *An*
" *act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs*
" *aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this Commonwealth againſt*
" *the United States*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill, entitled, " *An act to*
" *encourage and protect the manufactures of this State, by laying additional duties*
" *on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them* ;" and, having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of ſuch perſons as have debts due*
" *to them from the eſtates of perſons attained of treaſon, and confiſcated in the*
" *late war, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, " *An act to re-eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the*
" *borough of* Briſtol, *in the county of* Bucks," was read the ſecond time, and debated in part by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the farther conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 23, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, praying a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Whitehead Humphreys*, read *February* 8 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Boyd*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Watts*, to report thereon.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of this State were read, praying that the act for eſtabliſhing the bank of *North-America* may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a Committee appointed by the Truſtees of the univerſity of the State of *Pennſylvania* was read, ſetting forth, that the Supreme Executive Council have at divers times reſerved and ſet apart ſeveral of the eſtates confiſcated to the Commonwealth, for the uſe of the aforeſaid univerſity, though not to the amount of the ſum they were authoriſed to reſerve, and praying leave to bring in a Bill to confirm the ſaid eſtates for the purpoſe aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed *March* 1, on the petition of *Philip Shrawder*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for directing the mode of diſtributing the dona-*
" *tion-lands promiſed to the troops of this Commonwealth*," was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid Agent
" ſhall take and ſubſcribe an oath or affirmation before the Supreme Executive
" Council, well and truly to execute the buſineſs hereby entruſted to him,
" without partiality or favour either to the State or any individual; and for his
" ſervices and expences herein, he ſhall be allowed at the rate of
" for every day he ſhall be ſo employed."

On the queſtion, " *Shall the blank be filled up with thirty ſhillings?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Dale*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *John Keller,*
9. *Richard Willing,*
10. *Anthony Wayne,*
11. *Edward Jones,*
12. *Robert Ralſton,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *Charles Humphreys,*
16. *James Mercer,*
17. *Samuel Boyd,*
18. *James Porter,*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Robert Clark,*
21. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
22. *Henry Miller,*
23. *John Hay,*
24. *Philip Gartner,*
25. *David Ewing,*
26. *Henry Tyſon,*
27. *Joſeph Lilly,*
28. *Nicholas Lutz,*
29. *Chriſtian Lower,*
30. *Philip Kreemer,*
31. *Peter Burkhalter,*
32. *George Woods,*
33. *Robert Cluggage,*
34. *Frederick Antes,*
35. *William Finley,*
36. *Thomas Morton,*
37. *John Smiley,*
38. *James Johnſton,*
39. *Robert Loller,*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Manuel Eyre,*
3. *Joſeph Thomas,*
4. *Arthur Erwin,*
5. *John Craig,*
6. *Adam Orth,*
7. *David Jenkins,*
8. *Frederick Watts,*
9. *John Harris,*
10. *Robert Whitehill,*
11. *Abraham Lincoln,*
12. *David Davis,*
13. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14. *Robert Brown,*
15. *Jonas Hartzel,*
16. *John Ralſton,*
17. *Daniel Montgomery,*
18. *Samuel Dale,*
19. *John M‘Dowell,*
20. *Abraham Smith.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid Bill having thereupon been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Porter* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Michael Lindemuth,* of *Bern* townſhip, in the county of

Berks, was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *September*, 1780, the Indian ſavages had made inroads, and committed barbarous and cruel hoſtilities on the frontier inhabitants of the ſaid county, and the county of *Northampton*; that as he was then Colonel of militia, and the diſtance to the city of *Philadelphia* great, and exigence urgent, the entreaties and clamours of the people alſo great, he, together with Colonel *Shoemaker*, were induced to call a Council of military officers and the principal inhabitants, who unanimouſly adviſed him to call out a ſmall party of the militia to check the inroads of the Indians till the pleaſure of Government could be known; therefore praying, as he was actuated by zeal for the ſafety of his country, in calling the militia out without orders, the Houſe would grant relief in the premiſes, and thereby enable him to ſettle with and pay the men employed by him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Stump* was read, ſetting forth, that while a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, he was wounded in his limbs at the battles of *Germantown* and *Monmouth*: and alſo became ſubject to fits; that he loſt the whole of the depreciation of his pay, amounting to £. 91 6 4; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from ſundry perſons who ſubſcribed for building market-houſes in the *Northern Liberties* was read, ſetting forth, that by the act of Aſſembly entitled, "*An act for building market-houſes, and keeping a public market on both* "*ſides of* Callowhill-ſtreet," &c. paſſed the 6th day of *September*, 1783, it is enacted, That there ſhall be ſix ſuperintendants of the ſaid market, until the ſaid market-houſes ſhall be built, *Callowhill-ſtreet* and *New-Market-ſtreet* paved, and all the lenders of money on certificates be fully paid and ſatisfied, and from thenceforth no more than two ſuperintendants, a clerk, &c. the ſuperintendants named in the act to continue till the third *Saturday* in *March*, 1785, and thereafter to be elected annually by the freemen of the *Northern Liberties*; that the ſubſcriptions to build the ſaid markets which were expected to have been great, proved very inconſiderable, inſomuch that the preſent ſuperintendants were obliged to build three-fourths thereof at their own expence; therefore praying the Houſe to grant them leave to bring in a Bill to be enacted into a law to repeal ſo much of the aforeſaid law as relates to the electing of ſuperintendants and clerk of ſaid market, and enabling the petitioners to appoint ſuch officers, until the money aforeſaid be paid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Shaw*, of *Northumberland* county, was read, ſetting forth, that at a critical period of the late war, on the weſtern frontiers, he purchaſed and furniſhed for the public ſervice flour and beef cattle to the amount of 25,491 continental dollars, and $337\frac{54}{90}$, ſpecie dollars, for which he obtained certificates; and upon application for payment, the Executive Council gave an order on the treaſury for £. 285 18 4, State money, of the 7th of *April*, 1781, which has not been drawn, as it would not anſwer the diſcharge of his contracts with divers perſons; therefore praying the interpoſition of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James Milligan* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Montgomery*, to report thereon.

The report of the Committee, on the petitions of *Hugh Cunningham* and *Abner Cloud*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That this Houſe cannot comply with the prayer of the ſaid petitions.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair, a Bill entitled, "*An act to enable commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts of the ma-*" "*nagers of a lottery, ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building* Newark" "*academy, and* Skippack Lutheran *church, and repairing* Norriton *meeting-*" "*houſe, and every other perſon concerned therein, and for other purpoſes therein*" "*mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, "An act to ſuſpend the levying of more than three" "of the taxes of £. 93,640 10 per annum, which was directed to be layed" "and levied by an act entitled, "*A ſupplement to an act entitled*, "*An act*" "*for funding and redeeming the bills of credit of the United States of* America," "*and for providing means to bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion*," read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The petitions from the counties of *Cheſter* and *Berks*, and the city of *iladelphia* and its vicinity, praying that the act of Aſſembly whereby the k was incorporated may be repealed, which were read the firſt time yeſter- and this forenoon, were read the ſecond time;

hereupon,

motion, made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smiley*,

ved, That the ſaid petitions be referred to a Committee, and that the Committee be inſtructed to enquire whether the bank eſtabliſhed at *Phila- lphia* be compatible with the public ſafety, and that equality which ought ever to prevail between the individuals of a Republic, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smiley*, be the Committee for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The Bill entitled, "*An act granting to* James Rumſey *an excluſive right*" "*for a certain term of years, to navigate and build boats calculated to work*" "*with greater eaſe and facility againſt rapid rivers*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *March* 24, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Remonſtrances from a very conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, remonſtrating againſt the ſeat of juſtice, in and for the ſaid county, being fixed at *Harris*'s ferry, and praying the ſame may be removed to the town of *Lebanon*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Richard Alliſon*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 6, laſt, was preſented to the Chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Cox*, read *March* 21, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Philadelphia* county to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of *Wyoming*, read *March* 10, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Ordered, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Ralſton*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Dale*, be a Committee to report on the ſaid petition as well as the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*.

The ſeveral petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet*, between *Third* and *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Erwin*, Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *R. Clark*, Mr. *Gartner*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *R. Brown*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Montgomery*, Mr. *Morton*, Mr. *Ritchie*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The Committee appointed on the petition of *John Buyers*, made report, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed *March* 3, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants reſiding weſtward of the *Allegheny* mountain, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed *March* 22, on the petition of Brigadier-General *James Potter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of this State were read, praying a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act for "the relief of divers officers, late of the State navy*;" and, having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to "re-eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the borough of* Briſtol, *in the county of* "Bucks; and, having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act for the "relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers, and eighteen-months men*;" and, having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the Chair and read, together with its encloſures.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Lincoln* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of this State, praying for a reviſion of the teſt laws, were read the ſecond time; whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Humphreys*, as follows, *viz.*

" Whereas the principal objection made at the laſt ſeſſion of the Aſſembly to the reviſion of the teſt laws, *viz.* that it had not been aſked for by the perſons againſt whom it operated, is now removed by the petitions and remonſtrances which have been lately received by this Aſſembly from a great number of non-jurors, praying for and claiming their right of citizenſhip, as declared by the conſtitution: and whereas the expediency of continuing that law in force during the war, is now removed by a general and happy peace; therefore,

Reſolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into conſideration the petitions of the non-jurors and others, praying a reviſal of the teſt laws, and to report thereon to the Houſe."

A diviſion of the queſtion was called for, when, on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the preamble to the ſaid motion?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Humphreys*, and are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing*,
2. *Anthony Wayne*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Charles Humphreys*,
6. *Henry Miller*,
7. *John Hay*,

YEAS.

8. *Philip Gartner*,
9. *David M‘Conaughy*,
10. *Henry Tyſon*,
11. *Joſeph Lilly*,
12. *George Woods*,
13. *Robert Cluggage*,
14. *Matthew Ritchie*,

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *William Coats*,
5. *Joſeph Thomas*,
6. *John Keller*,
7. *Arthur Erwin*,
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
9. *Perſifor Frazer*,
10. *James Mercer*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *Samuel Boyd*,
14. *William Stoy*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *Robert Craig*,
17. *Robert Clark*,
18. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
19. *John Harris*,
20. *Robert Whitehill*,

NAYS.

21. *Nicholas Lutz*,
22. *Chriſtian Lower*,
23. *David Davis*,
24. *Philip Kreemer*,
25. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26. *Peter Buckhalter*,
27. *Robert Brown*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *John Ralſton*,
30. *Frederick Antes*,
31. *Daniel Montgomery*,
32. *Samuel Dale*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *Thomas Morton*,
35. *John M‘Dowell*,
36. *Abraham Smith*,
37. *James M‘Calmont*,
38. *George Smith*,
39. *Benjamin Rittinhouſe*.

So it was carried in the negative.

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid reſolution?*"

It was unanimouſly carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lower*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *M‘Dowell*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Loller*, be a Committee for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The Committee appointed to aſcertain what profits have ariſen to the officers of the Land-Office, under the preſent laws, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee of accounts reported, that they had received of *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of 16,075, in bills of credit, dated the 29th day of *April*, 1780, commonly called *State-Iſland* money; and alſo the ſum of 146,555 dollars, emitted by virtue of an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the 17th day of *March*, 1783; all of which aboveſaid ſums they have counted, burned and deſtroyed, according to law.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for directing the mode of diſtributing the donation-" lands, promiſed to the troops by this Commonwealth*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 25, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the honourable *Robert Morris*, Eſquire, was read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled, "*An act to enable the Agent or Agents of " his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any " debt or demand that may be due to them in this State*;" and praying to be heard by Council before this Houſe, or a Committee thereof.

A petition from *William M'Caſland* was read, ſetting forth, that the act entitled, " A ſupplement to an act entitled, "*An act for the more eaſy and " ſpeedy recovery of ſmall debts*," doth not ſufficiently guard againſt ſuits being brought in the Court of Common-Pleas for ſums under ten pounds, and praying this Houſe to paſs a law to provide more fully againſt ſuch being commenced.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, *An act for the limitation of actions to be brought for the " inheritance or poſſeſſion of real property, or upon penal acts of Aſſembly*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh, permanent ſalaries " for the Judges of the Supreme Court*," was read the third time; and, in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania *in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame*, That the preſent Juſtices of the Supreme Court, and their ſucceſſors in office, duly commiſſioned, as the conſtitution and laws of this State direct, ſhall, for and during their reſpective continuance in office, be entitled to, and ſhall receive, the annual ſalaries herein after ſet forth and ſpecified; and the ſame ſalaries ſhall be payable to the ſaid Juſtices ſeverally, in equal quarterly portions, by virtue of warrants for the ſame, drawn upon the Treaſurer of this State, which warrants ſhall be ſigned by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council; and that every ſuch warrant ſhall be entered in the office of the Comptroller-General of this State, before it be preſented to the Treaſurer for payment, *that is to ſay*, to the Chief-Juſtice of the Supreme Court the ſum of one thouſand pounds; to the ſenior Aſſiſtant-Juſtice, and to the other Aſſiſtant-Juſtices of the ſame court, the ſum of "*five*" hundred pounds each.

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Woods*, to ſtrike out the word "*five*," and in lieu thereof to inſert the word "*ſix*;" and the yeas and nays being called thereon by Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *Smiley*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Frederick Khul*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Arthur Erwin*,
8. *Perſifor Frazer*,
9. *James Mercer*,
10. *John Craig*,
11. *David Jenkins*,
12. *Robert Clark*,
13. *Frederick Watts*,
14. *John Harris*,
15. *Robert Whitehill*,
16. *Nicholas Lutz*,

YEAS.

17. *Chriſtian Lower*;
18. *Philip Kreemer*,
19. *Jonas Hartzel*,
20. *John Ralſton*,
21. *George Woods*,
22. *Frederick Antes*,
23. *Daniel Montgomery*,
24. *Samuel Dale*,
25. *William Finley*,
26. *Thomas Morton*,
27. *John M'Dowell*,
28. *John Smiley*,
29. *James Johnſton*,
30. *Abraham Smith*,
31. *James M'Calmont*,
32. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Joſeph Thomas*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,
8. *Adam Orth*,
9. *Samuel Boyd*,
10. *William Stoy*,
11. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
12. *John Hay*,
13. *Philip Gartner*,

NAYS.

14. *James Ewing*,
15. *David M'Conaughy*,
16. *Henry Tyſon*,
17. *David Davis*,
18. *Thomas Mawhorter*;
19. *Peter Burkhalter*,
20. *Robert Brown*,
21. *Robert Cluggage*,
22. *Matthew Ritchie*,
23. *Peter Richards*,
24. *Robert Loller*,
25. *George Smith*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

"A further ſupplement to the act entitled, "*An act for raiſing county rates*
"*and levies*."

"*An act for incorporating the* Preſbyterian *church of* Falling Spring, *in*
"Guilford *townſhip, in the county of* Franklin."

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of this State was read, praying a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of this State were read, remonſtrating againſt the bank of *North-America*, and praying the act which incorporated the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Bucks* and *Northampton*, read *March* 9 and 10, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from the counties of *Bucks* and *Northampton* to report thereon.

The petition of *Richard Alliſon*, read *March* 24, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Watts*, to report thereon.

The petition of the *German* ſociety, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Orth*, to report a bill if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of *Robert Harris*, read *March* 21, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Eyre* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The report of the Commiſſioners on the robbery ſaid to have been committed on *Jacob Fautz*, made to the late Aſſembly, read *March* 22, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report ſpecially thereon.

The report of the Commiſſioners, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 15 laſt, on the robbery ſaid to have been committed on *James Snodgraſs*, was preſented to the Chair and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Whitehill* be added to the Committee appointed to reviſe the election laws, in the room of Mr. *W. Brown*, who hath leave of abſence.

The Committee appointed *February* 28 laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Northampton* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee, read *March* 24, on the petition of *John Byers*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Committee appointed *March* 4, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Lancaſter* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 4, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the lower diſtrict of *Lancaſter* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 22, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of ſaid petitions.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the report be a committee to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *March* 4, on the petition of *Thomas Norton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 18, laſt, on the petition of *Michael* *yan,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 23, on the petitions of divers inhabitants f this State, againſt the bank of *North-America,* made report, which was ad, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to enable*   *to build a new courthouſe and priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury,” was read the ſecond time, and ebated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public onſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the me, *viz.*

“ *An act for the relief of the* Pennſylvania *volunteers and eighteen months* “ *men.*”

“ *An act to aſcertain, fix and eſtabliſh, permanent ſalaries for the Judges of* “ *the Supreme Court.*”

“ *An act granting to* James Rumſey *an excluſive right for a certain term of* “ *years to navigate and build boats calculated to work with greater eaſe and faci-* “ *lity againſt rapid rivers.*”

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 26, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive ouncil was preſented to the Chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

Sir,

Mr. *Milligan,* Comptroller of the treaſury of the United States, has this ay notified to Council, that in purſuance of an act of Congreſs, of the 23d f laſt month, he has appointed *John Story,* Eſquire, an additional commiſioner for ſettling accounts within this State. The appointment meets the pprobation of Council, if approved by the Legiſlature.

I am, with the greateſt eſteem,
Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

March 26, 1785.

The Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

A letter from *Matthew Clarkſon,* Eſquire, was read, declining to accept the appointment of a Delegate to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to enable them to erect a toll-bridge acroſs *Neſhaminy* creek, at the place where the preſent ferry is kept.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a committee of the truſtees of the univerſity of *Pennſylvania,* read *March* 23, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Woods*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Lewis Hallam*, read *March* 15, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Coats* and Mr. *Ritchie*, to report thereon.

A letter from *Thomas C. Bowen* and *Eſkurius Beaty*, agents for the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, praying payment of the expences incurred in the diſtribution of the certificates iſſued on the final ſettlement with the ſaid line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 24, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants weſtward of the *Allegheny* mountain, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on the petitions from divers inhabitants reſiding weſtward of the *Allegheny* mountain, beg leave to report,

That a road from the weſtern parts of the county of *Cumberland* to the town of *Pittſburgh*, will be of the greateſt importance to the intercourſe and commerce of this commonwealth, as well as to the due adminiſtration of juſtice therein; that although divers laws have been heretofore made for the opening, amending and repairing, the roads and highways of this State; yet the ſaid laws are not in all caſes ſufficient for the opening and making of highways through the mountainous parts of the ſtate, eſpecially whilſt the ſettlements are new, and the inhabitants few in number, and unequal to the making ſuch highways as the public ſervice require: your committee therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to empower the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to lay out and clear a road from the weſtern parts of the county of *Cumberland* to *Pittſburgh* aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Ritchie*, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act dividing the county of* Waſhington *into diſtricts, for the greater eaſe of the* "*citizens holding their annual elections*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds* "*therein*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An act* "*for the regulation of Bankruptcy*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for veſting in the* American *philoſophical ſociety*, "*held at* Philadelphia, *for the promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of* "*ground, being part of the State-Houſe ſquare*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted* "*into a law?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follows:

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Joſeph Thomas,*
11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Richard Willing,*
13. *Anthony Wayne,*
14. *Edward Jones,*
15. *Robert Ralſton,*
16. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
17. *Perſifor Frazer,*
18. *Charles Humphreys,*
19. *Samuel Boyd,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Craig,*
22. *Henry Miller,*
23. *Philip Gartner,*
24. *James Ewing,*
25. *Henry Tyſon,*
26. *Joſeph Lilly,*
27. *Frederick Watts,*
28. *Robert Brown,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *Robert Cluggage,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Samuel Dale,*
33. *Matthew Ritchie,*
34. *Peter Richards,*
35. *Robert Loller,*
36. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *James Mercer,*
2. *John Craig,*
3. *Adam Orth,*
4. *William Stoy,*
5. *Robert Clark,*
6. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *David M‘Conaughy,*
9. *Robert Whitehill,*
10. *Nicholas Lutz,*
11. *Chriſtian Lower,*
12. *David Davis,*
13. *Philip Kreemer,*
14. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15. *Peter Burkhalter,*
16. *John Ralſton,*
17. *George Woods,*
18. *Daniel Montgomery,*
19. *William Finley,*
20. *Thomas Morton,*
21. *John M‘Dowell,*
22. *John Smiley,*
23. *James Johnſton,*
24. *Abraham Smith,*
25. *James M‘Calmont.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The letter from *Robert Morris*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the Speaker be directed to inform the ſaid Mr. *Morris* that his requeſt to be heard by Council on the ſubject of the bill entitled, "*An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt chriſtian majeſty to ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to them in this State,*" cannot be granted, but that the Houſe will give due attention to ſuch facts and reaſons as Mr. *Morris* may offer in objection to the enacting of the ſaid bill into a law, provided ſuch facts and reaſons be ſtated in writing, and preſented on or before *Tueſday* next.

The petition of divers witneſſes attending the late conteſted election of repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, read *February* 25th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *M‘Pherſon* and Mr. *Finley*, to report thereon.

The Committee appointed yeſterday on the petitions from divers inhabitants of the counties of *Bucks* and *Northampton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled "*An act to eſtabliſh a ferry from the ſouthweſt ſide of the* Monongahela *oppoſite the town of* Pittſburg," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled "*An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Henry Willis, *with* Mary "*his wife*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled "*An act to authoriſe the holding of priſoners arreſted within the county of* Montgomery *for debts and offences in the goal and workhouſe of the county of* Philadelphia *until a proper priſon ſhall be erected within the county of* Montgomery," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled "*An act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled "*An act for the limitation of actions to be brought for the inheritance or poſſeſſion of real property or upon penal acts of aſſembly*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the ſpeaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A.M.

Monday, *March* 28, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert M‘Connell* was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe for the county of *Weſtmoreland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Two petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *York* were read, praying a reviſion of the teſt laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Parr*, *Owen Biddle* and *Clement Biddle*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that they employed a ſuitable perſon, in the year 1774, to explore the weſtern parts of this State, to enable them to apply to the land-office with proper deſcriptions; that they, on the 8th of *February*, 1775, made application accordingly to the land-office, of the then proprietaries of *Pennſylvania*, and left there a paper containing a deſcription of ſuch tracts of land as they wiſhed to take up, together with the names of ſixty perſons of their friends and acquaintances, for each of whom they prayed that a warrant for three hundred acres of the ſaid lands might be iſſued; that the ſaid applications were received and filed in the ſaid office, and are now with the other records in the office of *David Kennedy*, Eſquire, land ſecretary of this State; that on the 13th of *February* of the ſame year, they obtained ſeven warrants for ſeven tracts of land of 300 acres each, in the name of ſeven other perſons, on account of ſaid applications, for which they paid 105l. ſterling, money of *Great-Britain*, excluſive of fees of office; that they applied a few days after for warrants for the whole of the aforeſaid ſixty tracts, but were then informed the land was without the purchaſe made in 1768, but they apprehend that they have the right of pre-emption to the land aforeſaid, and as it is included in the late purchaſe made from the Indians, they pray the Houſe to make due proviſion reſpecting the ſame in the law now under conſideration relating to the unappropriated lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Taylor*, of the townſhip of *Lower Merion*, in the county of *Montgomery*, linen, cotton and calico printer, and bleacher, was read, ſetting forth, that he was regularly bred to the ſaid buſineſſes in *London*, and that he has carried on the ſame with reputation in all its branches for upwards of ſix years in *Scotland*; that agreeably to the policy of every well-regulated country, he would beg the encouragement of the Legiſlature in eſtabliſhing the ſaid manufactories in the townſhip aforeſaid, either by a loan of a ſum of money without intereſt, or by a premium.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Germantown* was read, repreſenting that they are much diſtreſſed by a law, which, contrary to the former cuſtom, orders the annual election of the county of *Philadelphia* to be held at the State-Houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*, therefore praying that the ſaid election may be held at *Germantown*, as it uſed to be.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Chief-Juſtice was read, ſetting forth, that the conſtitution provided that the Judges of the Supreme Court ſhould have fixed ſalaries; that the firſt General Aſſembly, in purſuance thereof, many months before any Judge was commiſſioned, fixed their annual ſalaries by an unanimous vote to be £. 1000 for the Chief-Juſtice, and £. 500 for each of the Aſſiſtant-Juſtices; that from that time he conſiders the ſalaries aforeſaid to be fixed, and not in the power of future Aſſemblies to diminiſh; that the depreciation of all the naval and military officers has been made up, and this juſtice has been extended to the chaplains, ſurgeons, ſurgeons mates, ſoldiers, *&c. &c.* of the *Pennſylvania* line; and to the executors of the firſt worthy Preſident, therefore praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and to direct the comptroller-general to liquidate the accounts of the Judges, charging them with the ſeveral ſums of money reduced to ſpecie that they have received during the firſt ſeven years, and to credit them for the annual ſalaries originally fixed as ſpecie, and to give them certificates thereof to the Supreme Executive Council to take order thereon, or that the Houſe would afford ſuch relief in the premiſes as ſhall be thought beſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 25, on the petitions from the counties of *Cheſter* and *Berks*, and the city *Philadelphia* and its vicinity, praying the act of Aſſembly, whereby the bank eſtabliſhed at *Philadelphia*, may be repealed, was read the ſecond time as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom were referred the petitions concerning the bank eſtabliſhed at *Philadelphia*, and who were inſtructed to enquire whether the ſaid bank be compatible with the public ſafety and that equality which ought ever to prevail between the individuals of a republic, beg leave to report, That it is the opinion of this committee, that the ſaid bank, as at preſent eſtabliſhed, is in every view incompatible with the public ſafety: that in the preſent ſtate of our trade, the ſaid bank has a direct tendency to baniſh a great part of the ſpecie from the country, ſo as to produce a ſcarcity of money, and to collect into the hands of the ſtockholders of the ſaid bank almoſt the whole of the money which remains amongſt us. That the accumulation of enormous wealth in the hands of a ſociety, who claim

perpetual

perpetual duration, will neceſſarily produce a degree of influence and power, which cannot be entruſted in the hands of any ſet of men whatſoever, without endangering the public ſafety. That the ſaid bank, in its corporate capacity, is empowered to hold eſtates to the amount of ten millions of dollars, and by the tenor of the preſent charter, is to exiſt forever, without being obliged to yield any emolument to the government, or to be at all dependent upon it. That the great profits of the bank, which will daily encreaſe as money grows ſcarcer, and which already far exceed the profits of *European* banks, have tempted foreigners to veſt their money in this bank, and thus to draw from us large ſums for intereſt.

That foreigners will doubtleſs be more and more induced to become ſtockholders, until the time may arrive when this enormous engine of power may become ſubject to foreign influence; this country may be agitated with the politics of European courts, and the good people of *America* reduced once more into a ſtate of ſubordination, and dependence upon ſome one or other of the Europern powers. That at beſt, if it were even confined to the hands of Americans, it would be totally deſtructive of that equality which ought to prevail in a republic. We have nothing in our free and equal government capable of balancing the influence which this bank muſt create ; and we ſee nothing which in the courſe of a few years, can prevent the directors of the bank from governing Pennſylvania. Already we have felt its influence indirectly interfering in the meaſures of the legiſlature. Already the houſe of aſſembly, the repreſentatives of the people have been threatened, that the credit of our paper currency will be blaſted by the bank ; and if this growing evil continues, we fear the time is not very diſtant, when the bank will be able to dictate to the legiſlature, what laws to paſs and what to forbear.

Your committee therefore beg leave further to report the following reſolution to be adopted by the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to repeal the act of Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of *April*, 1782, entitled, "*An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the bank of* North-America ;" and alſo to repeal one other act of Aſſembly, paſſed the 18th of *March*, 1782, entitled, "*An act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, bank-bills and bank-notes of the preſident, directors and company, of the bank of* North-America, *and for the other purpoſes therein mentioned*."

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, that the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed, which was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Pettit*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*, to ſtrike out the word "repeal," in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "alter and amend ;" upon which the yeas and nays being called by Mr. *Pettit* and Mr. *Mercer*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Richard Willing*,
6. *Edward Jones*,
7. *Robert Ralſton*,
8. *Charles Humphreys*,
9. *Henry Miller*,

YEAS.

10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
15. *George Woods*,
16. *Robert Cluggage*,
17. *Matthew Ritchie.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *James Vanſant,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
7. *Perſifor Frazer,*
8. *James Mercer,*
9. *John Craig,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Craig,*
14. *Robert Clark,*
15. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
16. *Frederick Watts,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Chriſtian Lower,*
21. *David Davis,*
22. *Philip Kreemer,*
23. *Peter Burkhalter,*
24. *Robert Brown,*
25. *Jonas Hartzel,*
26. *John Ralſton,*
27. *Frederick Antes,*
28. *Daniel Montgomery,*
29. *Samuel Dale,*
30. *William Finley,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *John M'Dowell,*
33. *John Smiley,*
34. *James Johnſton,*
35. *Abraham Smith,*
36. *James M'Calmont,*
37. *Peter Richards,*
38. *Robert Loller,*
39. *George Smith,*
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

Whereupon, on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the report as before* "*recited?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Humphreys*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Perſifor Frazer,*
9. *James Mercer,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *Samuel Boyd,*
13. *David Jenkins,*
14. *Robert Craig,*
15. *Robert Clark,*
16. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
17. *Frederick Watts,*
18. *John Harris,*
19. *Robert Whitehill,*
20. *Nicholas Lutz,*
21. *Chriſtian Lower,*
22. *David Davis,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Robert Brown,*
26. *Jonas Hartzel,*
27. *John Ralſton,*
28. *Frederick Antes,*
29. *Daniel Montgomery,*
30. *Samuel Dale,*
31. *William Finley,*
32. *Thomas Morton,*
33. *John M'Dowell,*
34. *John Smiley,*
35. *James Johnſton,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *Peter Richards,*
39. *Robert Loller,*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Henry Miller,*
9. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *James Ewing,*
12. *David M'Conaughy,*
13. *Henry Tyſon,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
16. *George Woods,*
17. *Robert Cluggage,*
18. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the report adopted.

Thereupon,

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the ſaid report be a committee to prepare and bring in a bill conformably thereto.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of *Lewis Hallam* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An act to enable* *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of* Bucks, *and to ſell the court-houſe and priſon at* Newtown," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the treaſury of this State for the ſum of five hundred pounds payable to* Thomas Paine, *Eſq.*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave granted, due notice having been given in the newspapers, was preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, "*An act to enable the honorable* Edward Shippen, *Eſquire,* John Swift, *Eſquire,* *the only ſurviving truſtees now reſident within this State, to grant, bargain, ſell and aſſure, a certain meſſuage and lot of ground, in this city, commonly called the* Maſons Lodge, *and to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Sundry petitions from the county of *Bucks* and the city of *Philadelphia* were read, praying that the act of Aſſembly which incorporated the bank may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for veſting in the* American *Philoſophical Society, held at* Philadelphia, *for promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the State-Houſe ſquare,*" being brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned till half an hour after three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A member preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, "A further ſupplement to the act entitled, "*An act for acknowledging and recording of deeds,*" whch was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " An act to authoriſe the appointment of new com-
" miſſioners to execute the act of Aſſembly, entitled, " *An act declaring the*
" *river* Suſquehanna, *and other ſtreams therein named, public highways, for*
" *improving the navigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams, and for preſerving the*
" *fiſh in the ſame, and to extend the powers of the ſaid commiſſioners to all parts*
" *of the ſame river within this State*," was read the third time, and debated
by paragraphs; Whereupon,

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted*
" *into a law?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *Boys*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *James Vanſant*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *John Clark*,
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *James Mercer*,
8. *John Craig*,
9. *Adam Orth*,
10. *David Jenkins*,
11. *Robert Craig*,
12. *Robert Clark*,
13. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
14. *Henry Miller*,
15. *John Hay*,
16. *Philip Gartner*,
17. *James Ewing*,
18. *David M'Conaughy*,
19. *Henry Tyſon*,

YEAS.

20. *Joſeph Lilly*,
21. *Frederick Watts*,
22. *John Harris*,
23. *Robert Whitehill*,
24. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
25. *Jonas Hartzel*,
26. *John Ralſton*,
27. *George Woods*,
28. *Robert Cluggage*,
29. *Frederick Antes*,
30. *Daniel Montgomery*,
31. *Samuel Dale*,
32. *William Finley*,
33. *Thomas Morton*,
34. *Matthew Ritchie*,
35. *John M'Dowell*,
36. *John Smiley*,
37. *James Johnſton*,
38. *James M'Calmont*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Khul*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *Elias Boys*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *William Stoy*,
7. *Nicholas Lutz*,
8. *David Davis*,

NAYS.

9. *Philip Kreemer*,
10. *Peter Burkhalter*,
11. *Robert Brown*,
12. *Peter Richards*,
13. *Robert Loller*,
14. *George Smith*,
15. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill entitled, " *An act to regulate the fiſhery in the river* Schuylkill," being brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill entitled, " *An act to regulate the general elections of this common-*
" *wealth, and to prevent frauds therein*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 29, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Preſident, directors and company, of the bank of *North-America*, was read, praying to be heard by Council in defence of their charter.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Robert Morris*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that the time allowed by this Houſe for ſtating the facts and reaſonings againſt the bill entitled, " *An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt chriſtian majeſty* " *to ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be* " *due to them in this State*," is by far too ſhort to admit of any poſſibility of doing it, and praying a further time may be allowed him for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Boggs* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed by the commiſſioners appointed to hold a treaty with the Indians in behalf of this State, to notify the *Wyondots* and *Delawares* to attend the ſaid treaty, and praying a reaſonable compenſation for ſaid ſervice.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Hewſon*, read *February* 15 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *M'Conoughy* and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Taylor*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

The petition of *Jacob Kintzer*, read *February* 9 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *York* county, to report thereon.

The letter from *Thomas C. Bowen* and *Eſkurius Beaty*, read *March* 26, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts to report thereon.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident, reſpecting the claim of Captain *Thomas Houſton*, read *March* 18, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Ewing* and Mr. *Thomas*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 18 laſt, on the petition of *William Robinſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, " An act " to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, " *An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers* " *to the bank of* North-America;" alſo one other act entitled, " *An act for* " *preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, bank bills and* " *bank notes of the preſident, directors and company of the bank of* North-" America, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, " A " further ſupplement to an act entitled, " *An act for erecting part of the* " *county of* Bedford *into a ſeparate county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " A further ſupplement to the act entitled, " *An act* " *for acknowledging and recording of deeds*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act to enable the honorable* Edward Shippen, *Eſq.* " John Swift, *Eſq.* *the only ſurviving truſtees now reſident* " *within this State, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey and aſſure, a certain meſſuage* " *and lot of ground, in the city of* Philadelphia, *commonly called the* Maſon's " Lodge, *and to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein men-* " *tioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *A ſupplement to the poor laws of this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time.

The bill intitled, " *An act for the relief of ſuch perſons as have debts due* " *to them from the eſtates of perſons attainted of treaſon, and confiſcated in the* " *late war, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " An act to ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly of this " Commonwealth, entitled, " *A ſupplement to an act entitled*, " *An act to* " *enable* William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John " Sellers, John Wilſon *and* Joſeph Davis, *to build a new court-houſe in the* " *county of* Cheſter, *and ſell the old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of* Cheſ- " ter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair, a bill entitled, " *An act for eſtabliſhing the office of a regiſter of all* German *paſſengers who* " *ſhall arrive at the port of* Philadelphia, *and of all indentures by which any* " *of them ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight, and of the aſſignments of* " *ſuch ſervants in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in* " *the ſeveral gaols of this commonwealth*," was read the third time; whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Boys*, ſeconded by Mr. *G. Smith*, " *to poſtpone the* " *further conſideration thereof.*"

And the yeas and nays being called thereon by Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *G. Smith*, are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *John Clark,*
4. *Joſeph Thomas,*
5. *Richard Willing,*
6. *Edward Jones,*
7. *Robert Ralſton,*
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
9. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
10. *John Hay,*

YEAS.

11. *Philip Gartner,*
12. *James Ewing,*
13. *Henry Tyſon,*
14. *Joſeph Lilly,*
15. *John Harris,*
16. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
17. *Robert Cluggage,*
18. *Matthew Ritchie,*
19. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *James Vanſant,*

NAYS.

5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Perſifor Frazer,*

NAYS.

9. *Charles Humphreys,*
10. *James Mercer,*
11. *John Craig,*
12. *Adam Orth,*
13. *Samuel Boyd,*
14. *WilliamStoy,*
15. *David Jenkins,*
16. *Robert Clark,*
17. *David M'Conaughy,*
18. *Frederick Watts,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Chriſtian Lower,*
21. *David Davis,*
22. *Philip Kreemer,*

NAYS.

23. *Peter Burkhalter,*
24. *John Ralſton,*
25. *George Woods,*
26. *Frederick Antes,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *Samuel Dale,*
29. *William Finley,*
30. *Thomas Morton,*
31. *John Smiley,*
32. *Abraham Smith,*
33. *James M'Calmont,*
34. *Robert Loller,*
35. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative; and the ſaid bill having thereupon been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*An act to authoriſe and enable the Supreme Executive* "*Council to appoint commiſſioners to join with the commiſſioners appointed, or to* "*be appointed, on the part of the ſtate of* New-York, *to aſcertain the northern* "*boundary of this ſtate, from the river* Delaware *weſtward, to the north-weſt* "*corner of* Pennſylvania," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

Having taken into our moſt ſerious conſideration a tranſcript of the record of the conviction and attainder of *Aaron Doan,* by outlawry, tranſmitted to us by the honorable the Judges of the Supreme Court, the capias and return, his two petitions, the anſwer of the Judges to a letter from us, and the conſequences to citizens of this commonwealth of eſtabliſhing a precedent in a capital caſe altogether new, we are of opinion, that a warrant cannot be legally iſſued by us for putting the ſaid *Aaron Doan* to death upon the ſaid outlawry, for ſeveral reaſons; the principal of which are contained in the paper herewith delivered.

As it is doubted whether there is any court from which a writ of error can iſſue in this caſe, we think it proper to lay the whole proceedings before your honorable Houſe, and leave to your determination, whether it is adviſable to reverſe the outlawry, in order that the party, according to his prayer, may have a trial by jury for the offence with which he is charged.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council-Chamber, Philadelphia,
March 29, 1785.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident, read *March* 26, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That this Houſe do approve of the appointment made by the Comptroller-General of the United States, of *John Story*, Eſquire, as an additional commiſſioner for ſettling the accounts of the United States with the citizens of this ſtate.

The committee appointed *March* 23, on the petition of *James Milligan*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein*;" and, having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 30, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

In Council, Philadelphia, March 28, 1785.

SIR,

The General Aſſembly, on the ſecond day of *December*, 1783, reſolved, that a ſum not exceeding ſix hundred pounds ſhould be appropriated for the purpoſe of enabling Council to make public demonſtrations of joy upon the definitive treaty of peace between the United States and *Great-Britain*. The encloſed accounts exceed the eſtimate, and the demands for payment, are very preſſing, as will appear from the letter herewith tranſmitted; but Council are unwilling to draw orders upon the treaſury for more than the ſum appropriated without the conſent of the Legiſlature.

I am, with much eſteem,

Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

JOHN DICKINSON.

Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying for a reviſion of the teſt laws; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *R. Craig*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Lower*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smiley*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Shepherd*, read *March* 18, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Eyre* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

A member preſented to the chair a motion for reſcinding the ſeveral reſolutions authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners for aſcertaining and running the northern boundary of this ſtate, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Chriſtian Leidig* was read, ſetting forth, that whilſt on a a ſcouting party in the ſtate of *New-York*, he was unfortunately taken priſoner, and deprived of his pay under pretence of his having deſerted the ſervice of his country, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, together with the papers therein referred to.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Clark*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Woods*, to report thereon.

A letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, was read, having reference to the reſolution of this Houſe of the 17th day of *March*, inſtant, and ſtating that the ſum of five hundred pounds thereby allowed is not adequate to the advantages derived to this ſtate, and requeſting this Houſe to grant a ſum equal to that which he might have derived from the ſale of the pamphlets publiſhed by him during the late war, and of which this ſtate was immediately benefited.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Matthew Clarkſon*, Eſquire, read *March* 26, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted; whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the election of two Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, in the room of *Joſeph Reed*, Eſquire, deceaſed, and *Matthew Clarkſon*, Eſquire, who hath reſigned.

The committee appointed *March* 24, on the petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of Major-General *James Potter*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

A member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act for regulating the* "*meaſurement of all kinds of corn and ſalt imported into the port of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the congregation of* Seven-day Baptiſts, *reſiding within* "*the townſhips of* Weſtnantmil *and* Coventry, *and places adjacent, in the county* "*of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act for declaring the acts of Aſſembly which give the* "*authority of Juſtice of the Peace to the chief burgeſs of the borough of* Lan-"caſter, *and to the burgeſſes of the boroughs of* Carliſle *and* Reading, *to be ſo* "*far contrary to the conſtitution; and to repeal the ſame acts ſo far as they con-*"*tradict the conſtitution*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*An act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to* "*draw on the treaſury of this ſtate for the ſum of five hundred pounds, payable to* "Thomas Paine, *Eſquire*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act to enable*
" *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of* Bucks, *and to ſell the*
" *court-houſe and priſon at* Newtown," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

And on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time* " *printed for public conſideration?"*

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Lilly,* and are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *Joſeph Thomas,*
6. *Arthur Erwin,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *James Mercer,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *David Jenkins,*
12. *Robert Clark,*
13. *John Harris,*
14. *Nicholas Lutz,*
15. *Chriſtian Lower,*
16. *David Davis,*

YEAS.

17. *Philip Kreemer,*
18. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
19. *Peter Burkhalter,*
20. *Robert Brown,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *George Woods,*
24. *Frederick Antes,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *John M‘Dowell,*
28. *James Johnſton,*
29. *James M‘Calmont,*
30. *Peter Richards,*
31. *Robert Loller,*
32. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *James Vanſant,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Richard Willing,*
7. *Edward Jones,*
8. *Samuel Boyd,*
9. *Robert Craig,*
10. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
11. *Henry Miller,*
12. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

13. *Philip Gartner,*
14. *David M‘Conoughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *Frederick Watts,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Robert Cluggage,*
20. *Thomas Morton,*
21. *John Smiley,*
22. *Abraham Smith,*
23. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act to de-* " *clare and eſtabliſh the conſtitutional right of the Preſident and Council of this* " *ſtate to draw for public monies in the hands of the treaſurer of the common-* " *wealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly ſo far as they are repugnant to* " *the ſame*;" and, having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, " *An* " *act to carry into immediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs* " *aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt* " *the*

" *the ſaid United States,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

" *An act to authoriſe the holding the priſoners arreſted within the county of* " Montgomery, *for debts and offences, in the gaol and workhouſe of the county of* " Philadelphia, *until a proper priſon ſhall be erected within the county of* Mont-" gomery."

" *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in the ſeveral gaols of* " *this commonwealth.*"

" *An act to diſſolve the marriage of* Henry Willis *with* Mary *his wife.*"

" *An act for the relief of ſuch perſons as have debts due to them from the eſtates* " *of perſons attainted of treaſon, and confiſcated in the late war, and for other* " *purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The report read *March* 28, on the petition of *Lewis Hallam,* was read the ſecond time as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom were referred the petition of *Lewis Hallam,* beg leave to report,

That they have received propoſitions from the ſaid petitioner to the following effect, *viz.*

That on being authoriſed to erect, manage and uſe, a theatre within the city of *Philadelphia,* he will ſecure to the ſtate the payment of £. 1000 per annum, during the continuance of the free exerciſe of ſuch authority under ſuch reaſonable reſtrictions, nevertheleſs, as the Houſe may think proper to preſcribe.

That your committee are of opinion, that the eſtabliſhment of a theatre in the ſaid city, under proper regulations, may tend to the cultivation of morality, and good manners; at the ſame time that it may afford an innocent and pleaſing amuſement to the citizens as well as to ſuch ſtrangers reſorting to the city, as ſhall chooſe to partake of it.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to authoriſe the erecting of a theatre under ſuch regulations and reſtrictions as may be neceſſary to confine the management thereof within the bounds of utility and decency.

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Ritchie,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*

YEAS.

9. *John Keller,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Richard Willing,*
12. *James Mercer,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *Philip Gartner,*
15. *James Ewing,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*

YEAS.

17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Chriſtan Lower,*
19. *David Davis,*
20. *Philip Kreemer,*
21. *Peter Burkhalter,*
22. *Jonas Hartzel,*
23. *George Woods,*
24. *Robert Cluggage,*
25. *Matthew Ritchie,*
26. *James Johnſton,*
27. *Peter Richards,*
28. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Joſeph Thomas,*
4. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *John Craig,*
7. *Adam Orth,*
8. *Samuel Boyd,*
9. *William Stoy,*
10. *David Jenkins,*
11. *Robert Craig,*
12. *Robert Clark,*
13. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
14. *John Hay,*
15. *David M‘Conaughy,*
16. *Henry Tyſon,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
20. *Robert Brown,*
21. *John Ralſton,*
22. *Frederick Antes,*
23. *Daniel Montgomery,*
24. *Samuel Dale,*
25. *William Finley,*
26. *Thomas Morton,*
27. *John M‘Dowell,*
28. *John Smiley,*
29. *Abraham Smith,*
30. *James M‘Calmont,*
31. *Robert Loller,*
32. *George Smith.*

So it was determined in the negative.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Finley*, be a committee to reviſe the laws againſt vice and immorality, and report a bill.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt chriſtian* “ *majeſty to ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand* “ *that may be due to them in this ſtate,*” was read the third time; whereupon a member preſented to the chair an additional clauſe to the ſaid bill, which was read.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill and clauſe be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

“ An act to ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly, entitled, “ *A ſupplement* “ *to an act entitled,* “ *An act to enable* William Clingan, Thomas Bull, “ John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon *and* Joſeph Davis, “ *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of* Cheſter, *and ſell the* “ *old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of* Cheſter.”

“ An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, “ *An act to carry into im-* “ *mediate effect the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for* “ *adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt the ſaid United* “ *States.*”

The bill entitled, “ *An act for eſtabliſhing the office of a regiſter of all* Ger- “ man *paſſengers who ſhall arrive at the port of* Philadelphia, *and of all inden-* “ *tures by which any of them ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight, and of* “ *the aſſignments of ſuch ſervants in the city of* Philadelphia,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 31, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Nathan Boys* was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of flour intended for exportation from the port of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Matthew Bennet* was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Boggs,* read *March* 29, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Finley,* to report thereon.

The petitions of *Thomas Scotland* and *John Stump,* read *February* 9 laſt, and *March* 23, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the members from the county of *Philadelphia* to report thereon.

The petition of the ſubſcribers for building market-houſes in the *Northern Liberties,* read *March* 23, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Vanſant,* Mr. *Eyre* and Mr. *Coats,* to report thereon.

The motion read yeſterday was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears by documents and papers layed before this General Aſſembly, that the Legiſlature of the ſtate of *New-York* have by law provided for the running out, marking and aſcertaining, the boundary line between the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania* and the ſtate of *New-York,* ſo that the ſame may be the fixed and permanent line of juriſdiction between the ſaid ſtates.

And whereas it is neceſſary to empower the Executive Council of this ſtate, by law to carry into execution the aforeſaid purpoſes, with the utmoſt preciſion and expedition; therefore,

Reſolved, That the reſolution of the 15th of *September,* 1783, for appointing commiſſioners for certain purpoſes therein mentioned, and the reſolution of the 18th of *February* laſt, for enlarging the powers of the commiſſioners appointed in purſuance of the ſaid reſolve of the 15th of *September* aforeſaid, ſo as to enable them to run out and mark a temporary line of juriſdiction between this ſtate and the ſtate of *New-York,* be, and the ſame hereby are reſcinded, and made null and void.

Reſolved, That the Executive Council be, and the ſaid Council is hereby empowered to draw orders on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the payment of ſuch ſum or ſums of money as ſhall appear to be due to each of the ſaid commiſſioners for any ſervices done, or expences borne, by them, or either of them, under their appointment as aforeſaid.

The petition of *William Parr* and others, read *March* 28, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit,* Mr. *Harris,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Montgomery,* to report thereon.

The report of the committee on the petition of *James Milligan,* read *March* 29, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be recommitted with the addition of Mr. *Pettit* and Mr. *Whitehill* to the committee.

The committee appointed *March* 24, on the petition of *Richard Alliſon,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 15, on the petition of *Robert Wallace*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was recommitted *March* 30, the report on the petition of Major-General *James Potter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 26, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Bucks* and *Northampton*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the commiſſioners appointed by this ſtate to aſcertain the iſlands in the river *Delaware*, &c. (in conjunction with thoſe appointed by the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*) be authoriſed and inſtructed to examine the ſaid river and its navigable branches in this ſtate, in regard to the navigation of them as far up as the *Cuſhichton* mountain, and make report to this Houſe of the practicability, and expence that may occur in improving the ſame; and further, that the Supreme Executive Council be deſired to inform the Governor of *New-Jerſey* of this reſolution.

It was moved by Mr. *Smiley*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Ralſton*, to reſume the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to enable the agent or agents of his* "*moſt chriſtian majeſty to ſue for, and recover in more ſpeedy way, any debt or* "*demand that may be due to them in this ſtate*;" and, after ſome debate thereon,

It was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ritchie*, "*to poſtpone the* "*conſideration of the ſaid bill until to-morrow morning.*"

And the yeas and nays being called thereon by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Smiley*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *Elias Boys*,
4. *Joſeph Thomas*,
5. *John Keller*,
6. *Richard Willing*,
7. *Edward Jones*,
8. *Robert Ralſton*,
9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
10. *Charles Humphreys*,
11. *William Stoy*,
12. *Robert Craig*,
13. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
14. *Henry Miller*,
15. *John Hay*,
16. *Philip Gartner*,

YEAS.

17. *David M‘Conaughy*,
18. *Henry Tyſon*,
19. *Joſeph Lilly*,
20. *Frederick Watts*,
21. *John Harris*,
22. *Nicholas Lutz*,
23. *Philip Kreemer*,
24. *Peter Burkhalter*,
25. *Jonas Hartzel*,
26. *George Woods*,
27. *Robert Cluggage*,
28. *Thomas Morton*,
29. *Matthew Ritchie*,
30. *Peter Richards*,
31. *Robert Loller*,
32. *George Smith*.

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *William Will*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Arthur Erwin*,
8. *Perſifor Frazer*,

NAYS.

9. *James Mercer*,
10. *John Craig*,
11. *Adam Orth*,
12. *Samuel Boyd*,
13. *David Jenkins*,
14. *Robert Clark*,
15. *Robert Whitehill*,
16. *Chriſtian Lower*,

NAYS.

17. *David Davis,*
18. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
19. *Robert Brown,*
20. *John Ralſton,*
21. *Frederick Antes,*
22. *Daniel Montgomery,*
23. *Samuel Dale,*

NAYS.

24. *William Finley,*
25. *John M'Dowell,*
26. *John Smiley,*
27. *Abraham Smith,*
28. *James M'Calmont,*
29. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill entitled, “ *A ſupplement to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods,* “ *wares and merchandize, imported, for ſecuring more effectually the revenues* “ *ariſing from the ſame,*” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

“ An act to authoriſe the appointment of new commiſſioners to execute “ the act of Aſſembly entitled, “ *An act declaring the river* Suſquehanna, “ *and other ſtreams therein named, public highways; for improving the naviga-* “ *tion of the ſaid river and ſtreams, and for preſerving the fiſh in the ſame, and to extend* “ *the powers of the ſaid commiſſioners to all parts of the ſame river within this ſtate.*”

“ *An act to authoriſe and enable the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners* “ *to join with the commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed on the part of the ſtate of* “ New-York, *to aſcertain the northern boundary of this ſtate, from the river* Delaware, “ *weſtward, to the northweſt corner of* Pennſylvania.”

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Edward Bartholomew* was read, praying to be re-appointed collector of exciſe in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 23, on the petition of *Whitehead Humphreys,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of the ſubſcribers to the market-houſes in the *Northern Liberties,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 15, on the petition of *George Schloſſer,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, “ *An* “ *act to confirm to the truſtees of the univerſity of the ſtate of* Pennſylvania *divers eſtates* “ *therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the board* “ *of truſtees of the ſaid univerſity to chooſe a new truſtee in the ſtead of any of their* “ *number (not being a truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the* “ *meetings of the ſaid corporation for one year,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to enable commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts* “ *of the managers of a lottery, ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building* Newark “ *academy, and* Skippack Lutheran *church, and repairing* Norriton *meeting-houſe, and* “ *every other perſon concerned therein; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*A ſupplement* "*to the acts far raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares and merchandize imported, for ſecuring more effectually the revenues of the ſame*;" and, having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, April 1, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt the prayer of the petitions for extending the market-houſe in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third* to *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the commiſſioners on the robbery ſaid to have been committed on *James Snodgraſs*, read *March* 25, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Thomas*, Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *G. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition from divers inhabitants of this ſtate, praying a poſt may be eſtabliſhed from the city of *Philadelphia* to *Pittſburg*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Smiley*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for electing two Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtoned until *Tueſday* next.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of the ſubſcribers for building market-houſes in the *Northern Liberties*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, "*An* "*act for the regulation of bankruptcy*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the congregation of the* Seven-day Baptiſts, "*reſiding within the townſhips of* Weſtnantmil *and* Coventry, *and places adjacent, in* "*the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, "*An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt chriſtian majeſty to* "*ſue for, and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to* "*them in this ſtate*;" and, in debating the following paragraphs, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all actions and ſuits which may be commenced or depending in any court or courts within this ſtate by the King of *France*, either in the name of the ſaid King, or that of his legal repreſentative, or repreſentatives for his uſe or benefit againſt any perſon or perſons, who ſhall be charged with having received the monies of the ſaid King, ſhall be proſecuted to trial and judgment, without delay or the uſual imparlances, and that to this end, the ſaid court or courts at any time after the return or returns of the capias or ſummons, or other proceſs at the prayer of the plaintiff or plaintiffs, be and they are hereby empowered and required to proceed to give rules in the ſaid cauſes, to declare, plead and try within ſuch time or times as may be conſonant to juſtice and conſiſtent with the moſt ſpeedy trial and the true intent and meaning of this preſent act.

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Ritchie*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *James Mercer,*
13. *Adam Orth,*
14. *Samuel Boyd,*
15. *William Stoy,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Robert Whitehill,*
21. *Chriſtian Lower,*

YEAS.

22. *David Davis,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25. *Peter Burkhalter,*
26. *Robert Brown,*
27. *Jonas Hartzel,*
28. *John Ralſton,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*
30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *Samuel Dale,*
32. *Thomas Morton,*
33. *John M'Dowell,*
34. *John Smiley,*
35. *James Johnſton,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *Peter Richards,*
39. *Robert Loller,*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

9. *James Ewing,*
10. *David M'Conaughy,*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Joſeph Lilly,*
13. *Nicholas Lutz,*
14. *George Woods,*
15. *Robert Cluggage,*
16. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the ſaid bill having thereupon been fully debated by parapraphs,

On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted*
"*into a law?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Ritchie*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*

YEAS.

6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *John Keller,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*

YEAS.

11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Peſifor Frazer,*
13. *James Mercer,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *William Stoy,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Craig,*
19. *Robert Clark,*
20. *Frederick Watts,*
21. *John Harris,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*
23. *Chriſtian Lower,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
26. *Peter Burkhalter,*
27. *Robert Brown,*

YEAS.

28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *John Ralſton,*
30. *Frederick Antes,*
31. *Daniel Montgomery,*
32. *Samuel Dale,*
33. *William Finley,*
34. *Thomas Morton,*
35. *John M'Dowell,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *Abraham Smith,*
39. *James M'Calmont.*
40. *Peter Richards,*
41. *Robert Loller,*
42. *George Smith,*
43. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

9. *James Ewing,*
10. *David M'Conaughy,*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Joſeph Lilly,*
13. *Nicholas Lutz,*
14. *George Woods,*
15. *Robert Cluggage,*
16. *Matthew Ritchie,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

DISSENTIENT.

Firſt, BECAUSE the bill is unconſtitutional both in ſubſtance and form.—It is unconſtitutional in ſubſtance, firſt, becauſe it is an *ex poſt facto law*, having reference to ſuits and actions now depending in the Courts of Juſtice of this commonwealth, and operating upon them ſo as to deprive the parties of thoſe legal pleas and imparlances to which they would otherwiſe be entitled, and which the wiſdom of ages hath thought neceſſary to allow for the prevention of oppreſſion and wrong: and ſecondly, becauſe it is an undue interference of the legiſlative with the judicial department, which ought ever to be kept ſeparate and diſtinct. When a citizen of a free government appears either as plaintiff or defendant in the Courts of Juſtice, he knows or may know what are the forms, pleas and proceſſes, neceſſary to the obtaining his ſuit, or the making his defence; but if theſe forms, pleas and proceſſes, may at any time be changed or taken away by the interference of the Legiſlature in cauſes actually commenced and depending, the greateſt inconveniencies may take place, and the arm of juſtice be converted into an engine of diſcretionary power and partial oppreſſion. This law is alſo unconſtitutional in form, becauſe, without either the appearance or even pretence of emergency, it hath been carried through the proceſs of legiſlation with unuſual precipitancy, and in direct violation of the 15th ſection of the conſtitution.

Second, Becauſe, before a law paſſes for the redreſs of a ſpecific grievance, it is proper and neceſſary that the Legiſlature ſhould at leaſt be ſatisfied that ſuch a grievance hath exiſted; but in the preſent caſe the Houſe hath had no proof whatever that the evil which this law is intended to remove either hath or is likely to occur. The preſent law originated in conſequence of a recommendation from Congreſs, and the recommendation from Congreſs was obtained by a memorial from the Chargés des Affaires, of his moſt chriſtian Majeſty; but the Chargés des Affaires, does not aſſert that any undue difficulties have actually occurred to the *French* Agents in obtaining the ſettlement of their accounts, but only ſays that he has been ſo informed; we think, threfore, that a law of ſo great importance, which is to abridge the rights of citizenſhip, and derange the general and ancient mode of the adminiſtration of juſtice, ought at leaſt to be founded in known facts, otherwiſe there would be no end of making laws of this kind for the redreſs of imaginary evils.

Third, Becauſe it is impolitic and derogatory of the dignity of a ſovereign ſtate to grant national advantages to the moſt favourite ally without firſt requeſting and obtaining reciprocal advantages in behalf of its own citizens, or in caſes very particularly circumſtanced which do not occur reſpecting the preſent law.

Fourth, Becauſe, although this bill wears the face of a *public bill*, yet, from concomitant circumſtances, and direct information from a citizen of this ſtate, communicated in a written memorial, there is reaſon to believe that it is in fact a private bill, and principally deſigned to operate againſt an individual; and this ſeems the more probable, as this Houſe hath not received any proof that the ſettlement of accounts with the Agents of *France* have *in general* been unduly protracted, or that any ſuits have been inſtituted for the recovery of debts due or ſuppoſed to be due to the ſaid Agents or any of them, unleſs in the caſe of the ſaid memorialiſt.

Fifth, Becauſe, whether the bill be conſidered as private or public in its deſignation, it will operate againſt all thoſe who have formed contracts with the *French* Agents, many of whom probably are diſperſed throughout the ſtate, and ſome probably at conſiderable diſtances from the ſeat of legiſlation; it will therefore be a manifeſt violation of the ſpirit of our conſtitution to paſs a law ſo directly pointed at them, without affording them a poſſible opportunity of making their objections however ſubſtantial and reaſonable thoſe objections might be; and it appears to us to be an evaſion unworthy the dignity of this Houſe to publiſh a bill for conſideration, in compliance with the 15th ſection of our conſtitution, and then to paſs it into a law before it is poſſible for thoſe upon whom alone this law is to operate to conſider the ſame at all.

James Ewing,	*John Hay,*
Richard Willing,	*Robert M'Pherſon,*
George Woods,	*Henry Tyſon,*
Joſeph Lilly,	*David M'Conaughy,*
Edward Jones,	*Henry Miller,*
Matthew Ritchie,	*Charles Humphreys,*
Philip Gartner,	*Robert Cluggage.*

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the members of the religious ſociety of the people called *Free Quakers*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to incorporate the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Brown* was read, praying to be appointed collector of exciſe in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Chriſtian Leidig*, read *March* 30, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Philadelphia* to report thereon.

A petition from *Daniel Netherhouſe*, late a ſoldier in the firſt *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

A petition from *James Read* was read, praying to be appointed inſpector of flour intended for exportation from the port of *Philadelphia*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Martha M'Kinley*, read *February* 11, laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Mercer* and Mr. *Lutz*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 28, 1783, on the petition of *William Williams*, was preſented to the chair and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair, a bill, entitled, " A ſupplement to the act entitled, " *An act for building market-houſes, and* " *keeping a public market on both ſides of* Callowhill-ſtreet *and* New-Market- " ſtreet, *in the* Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act for* " *erecting and opening a loan-office for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds*;" and, in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if it ſhall appear on the ſettlement of the accounts of the ſaid truſtees by the ſaid committees, and a confirmation thereof by the Houſe of Aſſembly, that any deficiency hath happened by any borrower or mortgagor not having right to the lands or tenements mortgaged or in the value thereof, or by any other ways or means whatſoever, to pay the monies and the intereſt accrued thereon, with the coſt of ſuch ſuits as ſhall be proſecuted for the ſame, then and in every ſuch caſe, the ſaid truſtees, having an order from the Aſſembly for that purpoſe, ſhall draw an order on the treaſurer of the county in which ſuch deficiencies ſhall happen, for the payment of ſuch deficiencies, if ſo much money ſhall be then in the treaſury, and if not, the ſaid truſtees ſhall, and they are hereby authoriſed and empowered to iſſue their precept to the commiſſioners and aſſeſſors of the ſaid county, enjoining them to cauſe the ſaid deficiencies to happening, with ſuch coſts and charges as ſhall accrue and be paid by the ſaid truſtees, in endeavouring to recover the ſame, forthwith to be aſſeſſed, raiſed and levied, of and upon the county, in the ſame manner, by the ſame perſons and under the ſame pains, penalties and forfeitures, as other county rates are by law directed to be aſſeſſed, raiſed and levied, which the ſaid commiſſioners and aſſeſſors are hereby enjoined and required to do; and the ſaid deficiencies when ſo levied ſhall be paid to the ſaid truſtees in order to replace the monies ſo deficient.

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Cluggage*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Joſeph Thomas*,
11. *Arthur Erwin*,
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
13. *Perſifor Frazer*,
14. *James Mercer*,
15. *Adam Orth*,
16. *Samuel Boyd*,
17. *William Stoy*,
18. *David Jenkins*,
19. *Robert Craig*,
20. *Robert Clark*,
21. *Frederick Watts*,
22. *John Harris*,

YEAS.

23. *Robert Whitehill*,
24. *Chriſtian Lower*,
25. *David Davis*,
26. *Philip Kreemer*,
27. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
28. *Peter Burkhalter*,
29. *Robert Brown*,
30. *Jonas Hartzel*,
31. *John Ralſton*,
32. *Frederick Antes*,
33. *Daniel Montgomery*,
34. *Samuel Dale*,
35. *William Finley*,
36. *Thomas Morton*,
37. *Matthew Ritchie*,
38. *John M'Dowell*,
39. *John Smiley*,
40. *Abraham Smith*,
41. *James M'Calmont*,
42. *Peter Richards*,
43. *Robert Loller*,
44. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Edward Jones*,
2. *Robert Ralſton*,
3. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
4. *John Hay*,
5. *James Ewing*,
6. *David M'Conaughy*,

NAYS.

7. *Henry Tyſon*,
8. *Joſeph Lilly*,
9. *Nicholas Lutz*,
10. *George Woods*,
11. *Robert Cluggage*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, " *An act to repeal and alter ſuch parts of the exciſe laws,*
" *and other tax laws of this commonwealth as empower the collectors of theſe*
" *taxes to break open dwelling-houſes, in order to make ſeizures and diſtreſſes,*
" *before oath or affirmation be firſt made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo*
" *doing; the acts of Aſſembly which authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council of*
" *this ſtate to inflict fines in a ſummary manner upon commiſſioners of counties;*
" *the*

“ *the acts of Aſſembly made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury*
“ *to perſons charged with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies, or*
“ *ſhips of the United States of* America, *or of his moſt chriſtian Majeſty, and to*
“ *reſtore the like privilege to perſons damaged by ſhips running foul of each other,*”
read ſecond time *December* 23, was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, April 2, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The report of the committee, read *March* 30, laſt, on the petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet* from *Third* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Kuhl*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*, “ *to adopt the report* ;” when the previous queſtion being thereupon called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Mercer*, *viz.* “ *Shall the main queſtion be now put ?*”

It was carried in the negative.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive*
“ *Council of this commonwealth to appoint all officers, civil and military, except in*
“ *the caſes reſerved by the conſtitution to the General Aſſembly and the people, and*
“ *to repeal the laws whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto,*
“ *and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller-General by a commiſſion for*
“ *ſeven years, and a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good behaviour only,*”
was read the third time ;

And on the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs ?*”

The yeas and nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Boys*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *James Mercer,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Robert Whitehill,*

YEAS.

21. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
22. *Peter Burkhalter,*
23. *Robert Brown,*
24. *Jonas Hartzel,*
25. *John Ralſton,*
26. *George Woods,*
27. *Frederick Antes,*
28. *Daniel Montgomery,*
29. *Samuel Dale,*
30. *William Finley,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *John M‘Dowell,*
33. *John Smiley,*
34. *Abraham Smith,*
35. *James M‘Calmont,*
36. *Peter Richards,*
37. *Robert Loller,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys,*
2. *John Keller,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *William Stoy,*
7. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
8. *Henry Miller,*
9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *Nicholas Lutz,*
15. *Chriſtian Lower,*
16. *David Davis,*
17. *Philip Kreemer,*
18. *Robert Cluggage,*
19. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; whereupon,

In debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the choice of the Speaker of the Houſe, clerks and other officers and ſervants of the ſame, proper and befitting to the General Aſſembly as a legiſlative body, the Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs, the treaſurers of the ſtate, regiſters of wills, and for granting letters of adminiſtration, and the recorders of deeds, collectors of exciſe, and inſpector of flour, truſtees of the loan-office, and a concurrency of votes with the members of the Supreme Executive Council in the election of Preſident and Vice-Preſident of Council, as mentioned in the conſtitution of this ſtate, are and ſhall be carefully reſerved to the General Aſſembly for the time being; and that all other officers neceſſary to the execution of the laws of this commonwealth (ſuch as are eſpecially reſerved to the choice of the people, or plainly directed by the conſtitution, to be otherwiſe choſen and appointed, only excepted) ſhall be deemed and taken to be, and the ſame are accordingly by this act, declared to be in the nomination and appointment of the Executive Council, ſubject however to the times and manner of holding the ſame, which the conſtitution and laws do or ſhall preſcribe.

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Smith,* to ſtrike out the words "*Collectors of Exciſe and Inſpector of Flour,*" whereupon a diviſion of the queſtion was called for and adopted.

On the queſtion, "*Shall the words* Collectors *of* Exciſe *be ſtruck out?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called thereon by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Lilly,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *James Mercer,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Craig,*
14. *Robert Clark,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

17. *John Ralſton,*
18. *Frederick Antes,*
19. *Daniel Montgomery,*
20. *Samuel Dale,*
21. *William Finley,*
22. *Thomas Morton,*
23. *John M'Dowell,*
24. *John Smiley,*
25. *James Johnſton,*
26. *Abraham Smith,*
27. *James M'Calmont,*
28. *Peter Richards,*
29. *Robert Loller,*
30. *George Smith,*
31. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *John Keller,*
6. *Richard Willing,*
7. *Edward Jones,*
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*
11. *William Stoy,*
12. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *John Hay,*
15. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

16. *David M‘Conaughy,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Joſeph Lilly,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Nicholas Lutz,*
21. *Chriſtian Lower,*
22. *David Davis,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Robert Brown,*
26. *Jonas Hartzel,*
27. *George Woods,*
28. *Robert Cluggage,*
29. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And on the ſecond queſtion, "*Shall the words* Inſpector *of* Flour *be ſtruck out?*" The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *G. Smith*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *James Mercer,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Craig,*
14. *Robert Clark,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

17. *Jonas Hartzel,*
18. *John Ralſton,*
19. *Frederick Antes,*
20. *Daniel Montgomery,*
21. *Samuel Dale,*
22. *William Finley,*
23. *Thomas Morton,*
24. *John M‘Dowell,*
25. *John Smiley,*
26. *James Johnſton,*
27. *Abraham Smith,*
28. *James M‘Calmont,*
29. *Peter Richards,*
30. *Robert Loller,*
31. *George Smith,*
32. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *John Keller,*
6. *Richard Willing,*
7. *Edward Jones,*
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*
11. *William Stoy,*
12. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

15. *Philip Gartner,*
16. *David M‘Conaughy,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Joſeph Lilly,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Nicholas Lutz,*
21. *Chriſtian Lower,*
22. *David Davis,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Robert Brown,*
26. *George Woods,*
27. *Robert Cluggage,*
28. *Matthew Ritchie,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

When, On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the clauſe as amended?*"
The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *Boys*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *James Mercer,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *Samuel Boyd,*
13. *David Jenkins,*
14. *Robert Craig,*
15. *Robert Clark,*
16. *Robert Whitehill,*
17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Chriſtian Lower,*

YEAS.

19. *Philip Kreemer,*
20. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *William Finley,*
27. *Thomas Morton,*
28. *John M‘Dowell,*
29. *John Smiley,*
30. *James Johnſton,*
31. *Abraham Smith,*
32. *James M‘Calmont,*
33. *Peter Richards,*
34. *Robert Loller,*
35. *George Smith,*
36. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *John Keller,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *William Stoy,*
9. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
10. *Henry Miller,*
11. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

12. *Philip Gartner,*
13. *David M‘Conaughy,*
14. *Henry Tyſon,*
15. *Joſeph Lilly,*
16. *Frederick Watts,*
17. *David Davis,*
18. *Peter Burkhalter,*
19. *Robert Brown,*
20. *George Woods,*
21. *Robert Cluggage,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So is was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A ſupplement to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares and merchandiſe imported, and for ſecuring more effectually the revenues ariſing from the ſame.

An act to enable the agent or agents of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty to ſue for and recover in a more ſpeedy way, any debt or demand that may be due to them in this ſtate.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 29 laſt, on the petition of *John Hewſon*, nade report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 29 laſt, on the letter from his excellency he Preſident, relative to the claim of captain *Thomas Houſton*, made report, vhich was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of the Judges and other witneſſes attending the late conteſted election of repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 30 laſt, on the petition of major general *James Potter*, was read the ſecond time,

And on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be recommitted?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Mercer*, and are as ollow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Peſifor Frazer*,
8. *James Mercer*,
9. *Samuel Boyd*,
10. *Robert Clark*,
11. *Frederick Watts*,
12. *Robert Whitehill*,
13. *Philip Kreemer*,

YEAS.

14. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
15. *George Woods*,
16. *Frederick Antes*,
17. *Daniel Montgomery*,
18. *Samuel Dale*,
19. *William Finley*,
20. *John M'Dowell*,
21. *John Smiley*,
22. *James Johnſton*,
23. *Abraham Smith*,
24. *Peter Richards*,
25. *Robert Loller*,
26. *George Smith*.

NAYS.

1. *Arthur Erwin*,
2. *Edward Jones*,
3. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
4. *Adam Orth*,
5. *William Stoy*,
6. *David Jenkins*,
7. *Robert Craig*,
8. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
9. *Henry Miller*,
10. *John Hay*,
11. *Philip Gartner*,
12. *James Ewing*,
13. *David M'Conaughy*,

NAYS.

14. *Henry Tyſon*,
15. *Joſeph Lilly*,
16. *Nicholas Lutz*,
17. *Chriſtian Lower*,
18. *David Davis*,
19. *Peter Burkhalter*,
20. *Robert Brown*,
21. *Jonas Hartzel*,
22. *John Ralſton*,
23. *Robert Cluggage*,
24. *Thomas Morton*,
25. *Matthew Ritchie*,
26. *James M'Calmont*.

And it appearing that the votes were equal, the Speaker was called upon to give his caſting vote, which he did in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, " *An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive Council of this Commonwealth, to appoint all officers civil and military, except in the caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution to the General Aſſembly and to the people, and to repeal the laws where-*

" *by certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto, and to ſecure the ind*
" *pendency of the Comptroller General by a commiſſion for ſeven years, and*
" *permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good behaviour only*;" and having ful
debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enact*
" *into a law*;"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *Miller*, and are :
follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *William Will,*
5. *Jacob Engle,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *James Mercer,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Robert Whitehill,*
21. *Nicholas Lutz,*

YEAS.

22. *Chriſtian Lower,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25. *Peter Burkhalter,*
26. *Robert Brown,*
27. *Jonas Hartzel,*
28. *John Ralſton,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*
30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *Samuel Dale,*
32. *William Finley,*
33. *Thomas Morton,*
34. *John M'Dowell,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *Abraham Smith,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *Peter Richards,*
39. *Robert Loller,*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *William Stoy,*
4. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

9. *David M'Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *David Davis,*
13. *George Woods,*
14. *Robert Cluggage.*
15. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, April 4, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of freeholders and others, proprietor
of, and intereſted in, the ſhad and other fiſheries on the lower parts of th
river *Schuylkill*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the act lately paſſed, entitled
" *An act to regulate the fiſheries in the river* Schuylkill," and praying thi

Houſe to paſs a ſupplement to the ſame, granting them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, was read, requeſting this Houſe to direct a bound volume of the laws of this Commonwealth to be delivered him for the purpoſe of furniſhing the Secretary for the department of Foreign Affairs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, was read, together with its encloſures, relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*; and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time:

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Mercer*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

The committee to whom were referred *March* 31 laſt, the petitions of *James Milligan* and others, and *William Parr* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 30 laſt, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, with is encloſures reſpecting *Aaron Doan* now under ſentence of death, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *April* 2, on the petition of the Judges and others, witneſſes on the late conteſted election of repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read the ſecond time, whereupon,

Reſolved, That an order be drawn by the Speaker on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſum of fifty four pounds ten ſhillings in favour of *Samuel Boyd*, eſquire, to be paid to the aforeſaid witneſſes, in proportion to their attendance reſpectively, *viz.*

To *Matthew M'Clung*,	6	10	0	*Brought forward*	40	10	0
George M'Laughlan,	4	10	0	*John Jordan*	3	10	0
Hugh Peden,	7	0	0	*Daniel Frank*,	3	10	0
Benjamin Moore,	7	10	0	*Jacob Bailey*,	3	10	0
Joſeph Jenkins,	6	10	0	*Archibald Steel*,	3	10	0
William Montgomery,	8	10	0				
					£ 54	10	0
Carried	£ 40	10	0				

A member preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, “ *An act to compel the*
“ *ſpeedy ſettlement and the paying or ſecuring of the debts due to this State for*
“ *lands held by location, or other office right, obtained before the tenth day of* De-
“ cember, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and yet remaining un-*
“ *patented*;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to re-*
“ *peal and alter ſuch parts of the exciſe laws, and other tax laws of this Com-*
“ *monwealth, as empower the collectors of theſe taxes to break open dwelling houſes,*
“ *in order to make ſeiſures and diſtreſſes, before oath or affirmation be firſt made,*
“ *affording ſufficient foundation for ſo doing; the acts of aſſembly which author-*
“ *iſe the Supreme Executive Council of this State to inflict fines in a ſummary*
“ *manner upon commiſſioners of counties; the acts of aſſembly made for diſcourag-*
“ *ing deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury to perſons charged with the harbour-*
“ *ing or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the United States of* America,

“ *or of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and to reſtore the like privilege to perſons da-* “ *maged by ſhips running foul of each other* ;” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs;

On the queſtion, “ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted* “ *into a law?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lilly* and Mr *Willing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *James Mercer,*
15. *John Craig,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *Samuel Boyd,*
18. *William Stoy,*
19. *David Jenkins,*
20. *Robert Craig,*
21. *Robert Clark,*
22. *Frederick Watts,*
23. *John Harris,*

YEAS.

24. *Robert Whitehill,*
25. *Nicholas Lutz,*
26. *Chriſtian Lower,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Philip Kreemer,*
29. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
30. *Peter Burkhalter,*
31. *Robert Brown,*
32. *Jonas Hartzel;*
33. *John Ralſton,*
34. *Frederick Antes,*
35. *Daniel Montgomery,*
36. *Samuel Dale,*
37. *William Finley,*
38. *Thomas Morton,*
39. *John McDowell,*
40. *John Smiley,*
41. *James Johnſton,*
42. *Abraham Smith,*
43. *James McCalmont,*
44. *Peter Richards,*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Robert McPherſon,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *John Hay,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

8. *James Ewing,*
9. *David McConaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill entitled, “ *A further ſupplement to an act, entitled,* “ An act for “ erecting part of *Bedford* county into a ſeparate county ;” was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to* “ *draw on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſum of five hundred pounds in fa-* “ *vour of* Thomas Paine, *eſquire,*” was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to enlarge the ſummary juriſdiction of the Juſtices* “ *of the Peace in actions of debt or demand, to ſums not exceeding ten pounds* ;” was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled, "*An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office for the* "*ſum of fifty thouſand pounds*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill entitled, "*An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive* "*Council of this Commonwealth, to appoint all officers civil and military, except* "*in the caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution to the General Aſſembly, and to the people, and to repeal the laws whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary* "*thereto, and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller General, by a com*"*miſſion for ſeven years, and a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good* "*behaviour only*;" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, and on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *Miller*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Moore*,
3. *Frederick Kuhl*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *James Mercer*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *Samuel Boyd*,
14. *William Stoy*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *Robert Craig*,
17. *Robert Clark*,
18. *Frederick Watts*,
19. *John Harris*,
20. *Robert Whitehill*,
21. *Nicholas Lutz*,

YEAS.

22. *Chriſtian Lower*,
23. *David Davis*,
24. *Philip Kreemer*,
25. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26. *Peter Burkhalter*,
27. *Robert Brown*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *John Ralſton*,
30. *Frederick Antes*,
31. *Daniel Montgomery*,
32. *Samuel Dale*,
33. *William Finley*,
34. *Thomas Morton*,
35. *John M‘Dowell*,
36. *John Smiley*,
37. *Abraham Smith*,
38. *James M‘Calmont*,
39. *Peter Richards*,
40. *Robert Loller*,
41. *George Smith*,

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys*,
2. *John Keller*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
8. *Henry Miller*,

NAYS.

9. *John Hay*,
10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M‘Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *George Woods*,
16. *Robert Cluggage*,

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Robert Caldwell,* read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 11, 1783, was preſented to the Chair and read,

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *April* 1, on the petition of *John Boggs,* was read the ſecond time as follows, *viz.*

Your committee to whom was referred the petition of *John Boggs,* beg leave to report.

That having duly conſidered the prayer of ſaid petition, and alſo conſidering the ſervices of the ſaid *John Boggs,* rendered to this State at the late *Indian* purchaſe, do think that the prayer of the ſaid petition ought to be granted.

Reſolved, Therefore that the pre-emption right to the ſmall iſland in the *Ohio* river called *Sherter's* iſland be granted to the ſaid *John Boggs,* he paying at the rate of 30l. per hundred for every acre therein contained, in the ſame way and manner as the other lands in the new purchaſe are payed for.

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee to whom was recommitted *April* 2, the report of the committee on the petition of major general *James Potter,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That to-morrow be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the bill entitled, "*An act to provide farther regulations, whereby to ſecure* "*fair and equal proceedings in the Land Office and in the ſurveying of Lands.*"

The report of the committee, read *March* 31 laſt, on the petition of *George Schloſſer,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

The report of the committee, read *April* 2, on the letter from his excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, relative to the claim of captain *Thomas Houſton,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be recommitted.

A member preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, "*An act for ſecuring the* "*eſtates real and perſonal, which have or may eſcheat to this Commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

It was moved by Mr. *G. Smith,* ſeconded by Mr. *Smiley,* to take up for a ſecond reading, the bill entitled, "*An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled,* " An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the bank of *North America;*" *alſo* "*one other act entitled,* " An act for preventing and puniſhing the counter- " feiting of the common ſeal, bank bills and bank notes of the Preſident, " Directors and Company of the bank of *North America,*" *and for other pur-* "*poſes therein mentioned.*"

Whereupon, On motion made by Mr. *Pettit,* ſeconded by Mr. *Willing,* the memorial of the Preſident, Directors and Company of the Bank of *North America,* read *March* 29 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the prayer of the ſaid memorial* (to wit, to be heard by counſel) *be granted?*"

It was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Humphreys,* ſeconded by Mr. *Willing,* that the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed until the next ſeſſion;

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Humphreys* and Mr. *Miller,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *William Will*,
3. *Elias Boys*,
4. *Richard Willing*,
5. *Edward Jones*,
6. *Robert Ralſton*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,
8. *Henry Miller*,

YEAS.

9. *John Hay*,
10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *David M'Conaughy*,
12. *Henry Tyſon*,
13. *Joſeph Lilly*,
14. *George Woods*,
15. *Robert Cluggage*.
16. *Matthew Ritchie*.

NAYS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Joſeph Thomas*,
8. *John Keller*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
11. *Perſifor Frazer*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *Samuel Boyd*,
15. *William Stoy*,
16. *David Jenkins*,
17. *Robert Craig*,
18. *Robert Clark*,
19. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
20. *Frederick Watts*,
21. *John Harris*,
22. *Robert Whitehill*,

NAYS.

23. *Nicholas Lutz*,
24. *David Davis*,
25. *Philip Kreemer*,
26. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
27. *Peter Burkhalter*,
28. *Robert Brown*,
29. *Jonas Hartzel*,
30. *John Ralſton*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Daniel Montgomery*,
33. *Samuel Dale*,
34. *William Finley*,
35. *Thomas Morton*,
36. *John M'Dowell*,
37. *John Smiley*,
38. *James Johnſton*,
39. *Abraham Smith*,
40. *James M'Calmont*,
41. *Peter Richards*,
42. *Robert Loller*,
43. *George Smith*,
44. *Chriſtian Lower*,

So it was determined in the negative,

The ſaid bill was then taken up, and after the ſame had been fully debated by paragraphs; On the queſtion, " *Shall the ſaid bill be tranſcribed and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Woods* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *John Clark*,
7. *Joſeph Thomas*,
8. *Arthur Erwin*,
9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *John Craig*,

YEAS.

12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *Samuel Boyd*,
14. *William Stoy*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *Robert Craig*,
17. *Robert Clark*,
18. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
19. *Frederick Watts*,
20. *John Harris*,
21. *Robert Whitehill*,
22. *Nicholas Lutz*,

YEAS.

23. *Chriſtian Lower,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Philip Kreemer,*
26. *Peter Burkhalter,*
27. *Robert Brown,*
28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *John Ralſton,*
30. *Frederick Antes,*
31. *Daniel Montgomery,*
32. *Samuel Dale,*

YEAS.

33. *William Finley,*
34. *Thomas Morton,*
35. *John M'Dowell,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *Abraham Smith,*
39. *James M'Calmont,*
40. *Peter Richards,*
41. *Robert Loller,*
42. *George Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Richard Willing,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

9. *David M'Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
13. *George Woods,*
14. *Robert Cluggage,*
15. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, April 5, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the lower end of the county of *York*, were read, praying a releaſe from the payment of intereſt upon the principal of the purchaſe money of lands, due before the end of the late war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the ſeveral petitions for appointments to office, now before the Houſe, be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council to take order thereon.

The petitions of a conſiderable number of the freeholders and others, proprietors of, and intereſted in, the ſhad and other fiſheries on the lower parts of the river *Schuylkill,* read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time; whereupon,

A member preſented to the Chair a bill entitled, "*A ſupplement to the act* " *entitled,* " An act to regulate the fiſhery in the river *Schuylkill;*" which which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill entitled, "*An act to provide* " *further regulations, whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land* " *Office and in the ſurveying of Lands;*" was read the third time, whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Pettit,* ſeconded by Mr. *Woods,* the report of the committee on the petitions of *James Milligan* and others, and *William Parr* and others, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

" The committee to whom was recommitted the petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox,* and to whom was alſo referred the petition of *William Parr* and others,—Report.

That it appears to your committee that locations were made and returned for ten tracts of land of three hundred acres each, lying on or near that part of the line of the lands purchaſed from the *Indians* in the year 1768, which extends from the weſtern branch of the river *Suſquehanna* to the river *Allegheny*, and that the purchaſe money for the ſame, was fully paid to the late Proprietaries or their agents, in or about the month of *January*, 1775, by or in behalf of the ſaid *James Milligan* and others, and warrants thereupon obtained in the uſual form, in the names of the ſeveral perſons under whom they claim, for ſurveying the ſaid ten tracts of land.

That locations were made and returned in like manner for ſeven tracts of land of three hundred acres each, lying on or near the ſame line, and the purchaſe money for the ſame paid to the ſaid late Proprietaries or their agents in or about the month of *February*, 1775, by or in behalf of the ſaid *William Parr* and others, and warrants thereupon obtained in the uſual form, in the names of the ſeveral perſons under whom they claim, for ſurveying the ſaid ſeven tracts of land.

That it appears to your committee, that at the times of making the ſaid ſeventeen locations, paying the purchaſe money and obtaining the warrants for ſurveying the ſame, the ſaid locations were underſtood and believed to be within the line of the *Indian* purchaſe; but that the line which was afterwards run from the ſaid weſtern branch of *Suſquehanna* to the *Alleghany*, in or about *April* or *May*, 1775, is ſaid to have excluded the lands ſo located and returned, or part of them.

Your committee are nevertheleſs of opinion that the claimants have an equitable claim to have the ſaid lands confirmed to the perſons in whoſe names the ſaid warrants were ſeverally iſſued, or to the legal repreſentatives or aſſigns of ſuch perſons, and therefore ſubmit the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the ſaid ſeveral petitioners be granted, ſo far as relates to the aforeſaid ſeventeen tracts of land of three hundred acres each."

And on the queſtion, "*Will the houſe adopt the ſaid report?*"

It was carried in the negative. Thereupon,

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the aforeſaid bill, and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *George Stuart* was read, ſetting forth, that he ſtands poſſeſſed of a certain tract of land &c. ſituate in *Leacock* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, bequeathed to him by the laſt will and teſtament of his late father, for and during his natural life and after his deceaſe to his lawful iſſue, their heirs and aſſigns for ever; and praying leave to bring in a bill to enable him to ſell and convey the fee ſimple in the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An account from the adminiſtrators to the eſtate of the late *John Morris*, eſq. deceaſed, was read, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 29 laſt, on the letter from *Thomas B. Bowen* and *Eſkurius Beaty*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of major general *James Potter*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon.

Reſolved, That a clauſe be inſerted in the Land Office bill now before the Houſe, that warrants do iſſue in favour of general *Potter* for one thouſand acres of land in the forks of *Cinemahoning*, near the *Great Swamp*, he paying for the ſame at the common rate that lands in the new purchaſe are to be ſold at.

A letter from his excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the Chair, and read as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, *April* 5, 1784.

SIR,

We have this day received the encloſed letter from the Commiſſioners of the States of *Maryland* and *Virginia*, which we think ſhould be immediately communicated to the General Aſſembly.

I am with great eſteem,
Sir, your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the letter encloſed was alſo read.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

“ *An act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the Treaſure*
“ *of this State, for the ſum of five hundred pounds, in favour of* Thomas
“ Paine, *eſquire.*

“ *An act to repeal and alter ſuch parts of the exciſe laws, and other tax law*
“ *of this Commonwealth, as empower the collectors of theſe taxes to break ope*
“ *dwelling houſes, in order to make ſeiſures and diſtreſſes, before oath or affirma-*
“ *tion be firſt made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo doing; the acts of Aſ-*
“ *ſembly which authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council of this State to inflic*
“ *fines in a ſummary manner upon Commiſſioners of counties; the acts of Aſſembl*
“ *made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury to perſons charge*
“ *with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the Unite*
“ *States of* America, *or of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and to reſtore the lik*
“ *privileges to perſons damaged by ſhips running foul of each other.*”

“ *An act to enlarge the ſummary juriſdiction of the Juſtices of the Peace i*
“ *actions of debt or demand, to ſums not exceeding ten pounds.*”

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to pro-*
“ *vide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in th*
“ *Land Office and in the ſurveying of lands;*” and having further debated th ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for electing two delegate to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States be poſtponed until to-morrow

Adjourned until nine o'clock on to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, April 6, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from a committee of the merchants and traders of the city o *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating that it has been conſidered as a fundamenta defec defect in the conſtitution of Congreſs, that a full and entire power over the commerce of United States has not been given to that body, and ſtating that a recommendation from Congreſs to the ſeveral States for that purpoſe would meet with their approbation, and praying this Houſe to endeavour to procure ſuch a recommendation from Congreſs and at the ſame time to give aſſurance of a diſpoſition in the mercantile intereſt of *Pennſylvania* favourable thereto.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 24 laſt, on the petition for a reviſion of the teſt laws, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Thomas B. Bowen* and *Eſkurius Beaty*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and empowered to draw on the State Treaſurer for the ſum of two hundred and eighty pounds three ſhillings and five pence, payable to the ſaid *Thomas B. Bowen* and *Eſkurius Beaty*, for their expences as agents to the *Pennſylvania* line.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill entitled, “ *An*
“ *act to appropriate the ſum of* *pounds of the public monies to*
“ *the laying out and making of an highway from the weſtern parts of* Cumber-
“ land *county to the town of* Pittſburg, *and to authoriſe the Preſident in Coun-*
“ *cil to appoint Commiſſioners to lay out the ſame*;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill entitled, “ *An act*
“ *to repeal part of an act of Aſſembly entitled*, “ An act to prevent the erecting
“ any new and independent State within the limits of this Commonwealth,” *ſo*
“ *far as it directs trial for offences in another county than that in which the offence*
“ *was or might have been committed*;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 30 laſt, on the petition of *William Shepard*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to pro-*
“ *vide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the*
“ *Land Office, and in the ſurveying of lands*,” and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs;

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill entitled, “ *A ſupplement to an act entitled*, “ An act to regulate
“ the fiſhery in the river *Schuylkill*;” was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Humphreys* and Mr. *Willing*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *John Keller*,
9. *Richard Willing*,

YEAS.

10. *Robert Ralſton*,
11. *Perſifor Frazer*,
12. *Charles Humphreys*,
13. *John Craig*,
14. *Samuel Boyd*,
15. *John Hay*,
16. *Philip Gartner*,
17. *Henry Tyſon*,
18. *Joſeph Lilly*,

YEAS.

19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *Matthew Ritchie,*
22. *Robert Loller,*
23. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *John Clark,*
2. *Joſeph Thomas,*
3. *Arthur Erwin,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
6. *James Mercer,*
7. *Adam Orth,*
8. *William Stoy,*
9. *David Jenkins,*
10. *Robert Craig,*
11. *Robert Clark,*
12. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M‘Conaughy,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*
17. *Chriſtian Lower,*
18. *David Davis,*
19. *Philip Kreemer,*
20. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21. *Peter Burkhalter,*
22. *Robert Brown,*
23. *Jonas Hartzel,*
24. *George Woods,*
25. *Frederick Antes,*
26. *Daniel Montgomery,*
27. *Samuel Dale,*
28. *Thomas Morton,*
29. *John M‘Dowell,*
30. *John Smiley,*
31. *James Johnſton,*
32. *Abraham Smith,*
33. *James M‘Calmont,*
34. *Peter Richards,*
35. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the* “ *State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of* “ *the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity, to* “ *chooſe a new Truſtee in the ſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee in* “ *right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the ſaid Cor*“ *poration for one year,*” was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and it the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to ſet*“ *tle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State, in the ſervice of the* “ *United States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed the 4th* “ *day of* June, 1778,” and having debated the ſame by paragraphs;

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *A further ſupplement to the act entitled,* “ An act for “ acknowledging and recording of deeds,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Keller* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to veſt the perſonal eſtate of the late Corporation of* “ *the Mayor and Commonalty of the city of* Philadelphia, *in the wardens of the ſaid* “ *city; and to direct the immediate ſale of the old gaol and work-houſe of the* “ *county of* Philadelphia, *and to appropriate the ſaid perſonal eſtate, and part of* “ *the monies to ariſe from the ſale of the ſaid gaol and work-houſe, to the build*“ *ing of two court-houſes, one for the ſaid city, the other for the ſaid county,*

“ *on the ſtate-houſe lot in the ſaid city, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Craig* and Mr. *Ewing* have leave of abſence, after to-morrow, during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

A letter from the Comptroller General, tranſmitting the accounts of the State Treaſurer, from *October,* 1782 continued up to the firſt day of *January* laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill entitled, “ *An act to provide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-Office and in the ſurveying of lands.*”

Upon which, a member preſented to the Chair the following as an additional clauſe, which was ſeconded, *viz.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the bills of credit (emitted or to be emitted in purſuance of an act entitled, “ *An act to furniſh the quota towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States,*” paſſed the 16th *March* laſt) be, and the ſame are hereby made and declared to be received and made payable for all fees in the Secretary, Receiver General and Surveyor General's Office, and alſo be received in payment by, and made payable to the Speaker and members of the General Aſſembly, the Preſident, Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, and all other civil officers of this Commonwealth, equal to gold and ſilver, for their reſpective pay and ſalaries; any other act or law to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

And the queſtion being ready to be put on the foregoing clauſe; the previous queſtion was moved, *viz.* “ *Shall the main queſtion be now put?*”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Willing,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Henry Miller,*
4. *John Hay,*

YEAS.

5. *Philip Gartner,*
6. *Joſeph Lilly,*
7. *George Woods,*
8. *Robert Cluggage,*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Robert Ralſton,*

NAYS.

12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *Charles Humphreys,*
15. *James Mercer,*
16. *John Craig,*
17. *Adam Orth,*
18. *William Stoy,*
19. *David Jenkins,*
20. *Robert Craig,*
21. *Robert Clark,*
22. *James Ewing,*

NAYS.

23. *David M'Conaughy,*
24. *Henry Tyſon,*
25. *Frederick Watts,*
26. *John Harris,*
27. *Nicholas Lutz,*
28. *Chriſtian Lower,*
29. *David Davis,*
30. *Philip Kreemer,*
31. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
32. *Peter Burkhalter,*
33. *Robert Brown,*
34. *Jonas Hartzel,*
35. *John Ralſton,*
36. *Frederick Antes,*

NAYS.

37. *Daniel Montgomery,*
38. *Samuel Dale,*
39. *William Finley,*
40. *Thomas Morton,*
41. *Matthew Ritchie,*
42. *John M'Dowell,*
43. *John Smiley,*
44. *James Johnſton,*
45. *Abraham Smith,*
46. *James M'Calmont,*
47. *Peter Richards,*
48. *Robert Loller,*
49. *George Smith,*
50. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative, and the queſtion loſt.

Reaſons of our Vote in Negativing the foregoing words:

BECAUSE this Aſſembly hath already moſt decidedly avoided the making of the bills of credit alluded to, a legal tender in any caſe, except in the payment of taxes and other ſums due to the Commonwealth: after which to declare them tenderable to the public ſervants for ſalaries and wages, would tend to create ſuſpicions that ſuch a declaration was but a ſtep towards making them a lawful tender in all caſes and to every perſon whatſoever.

Becauſe, although we do not heſitate to declare our willingneſs to receive ſuch bills of credit as equal with ſpecie, either for our pay as public ſervants or in our reſpective private dealings, we conſider the declaring them *by law* a tender to individuals, as diſcrediting beforehand this ſpecies of money, inaſmuch as it might reaſonably be inferred, from the uſe of ſuch forcible meaſures, that the legiſlative body itſelf was conſcious that the bills were not founded on ſolid principles. Experience ought to have convinced every one that bills of credit, however propped by tender laws and penalties, will nevertheleſs depreciate, if the quantity in circulation at any time be too large, or if they be iſſued without adequate means of redemption, or be otherwiſe ſo circumſtanced as to fail of meriting the public confidence; but we apprehend that none of theſe objections can be fairly applied to the bills in queſtion.

And becauſe it would be very inconſiſtent with the deſign of the bill now under conſideration, which is for regulating the Land Office, to admit of a clauſe of this nature, eſpecially as the act for emitting the ſaid bills of credit, to which it relates, has been ſo lately under diſcuſſion in the Houſe, where ſuch clauſe, if admiſſible at all, would only have been pertinent; and therefore the introduction of ſuch words into the bill now before the Houſe, would be highly improper.

After thus aſſigning reaſons for our conduct on this occaſion, we cannot but remark that this unſeaſonable motion (whatever may have been the deſign of it) has a manifeſt tendency to caſt an undeſerved odium upon the majority of this Houſe;—A circumſtance which ought, in our opinion, to have induced the propoſers of it, from candour and a regard to their own feelings, either to have declined the attempt, or to have withdrawn it when theſe objections were offered againſt it.

William Coats,
James Johnſton,
John Craig,
Daniel Montgomery,
Manuel Eyre,
Jacob Engle,
James Vanſant,
Robert Clark,
Perſifor Frazer,
Thomas Morton,
Philip Kreemer,
Charles Pettit,
Robert Whitehill,
John Smiley,
John Harris,
James Mercer,
Chriſtian Lower,
David Jenkins,
John Clark,
George Smith,
Nicholas Lutz,
Frederick Antes,
William Will,
Arthur Erwin,
Robert Ralſton,
William Stoy,
Joſeph Strawbridge,
John M‘Dowell,
David Davis,
Samuel Boyd,
William Finley,
Robert M‘Pherſon,
Adam Orth,
Robert Brown,
John Ralſton,
Abraham Smith,
Thomas Mawhorter,
Frederick Watts,
David M‘Conaughy,
Jonas Hartzel,
Peter Burkhalter,
James M‘Calmont,
Samuel Dale,
Robert Loller,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe.

The ſaid bill having thereupon been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the order of the day for electing two delegates to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until to-morrow.

The bill entitled, "*A ſupplement to the poor laws of this Commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of divers officers late of the State* " *navy,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, April 7, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Boyle,* callico and linen printer, was read, ſetting forth, that the cotton manufactory and callico printing may be carried on in this State, to the advantage of the manufacturer and the benefit of the country in general, and ſtating his inability to carry on the buſineſs without aſſiſtance and ſupport, therefore praying the aid of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day the Houſe proceeded to the election of two delegates to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken it appeared that the honorable *Charles Pettit* and *James Wilſon,* eſquires, were duly elected.

The report of the committee, read *March* 22 laſt, on the petition of *Henry Bedkin*; was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, read *March* 31 laſt, on the petition of *Whitehead Humphreys*, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed on the petition of *Ann Rhoads*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *April* 2, on the petition of *John Hewſon*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee to whom was referred the letter from *Thomas Scott*, *James Edgar* and *John M'Dowell*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller General was read, relative to the accounts of Dr. *Robert Harris*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Pettit*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Finley* to report thereon.

The letters from the Comptroller General, read laſt, reſpecting the accounts of *Samuel J. Atlee*, and *Joſeph Montgomery*, eſquires, were read, the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the State of *Pennſylvania*, read *March* 2d laſt, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon, a motion was preſented to the Chair and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the eſtabliſhment of a communication by poſt, between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern parts of this ſtate, is of great importance to the general intereſt of the Commonwealth.

And whereas a number of reſpectable citizens have, by their petition to this Houſe, ſet forth, That the Poſt-Maſter-General of the United States hath expreſſed a deſire to eſtabliſh ſuch communication, provided the State will engage to indemnify the General Poſt-Office for the expence thereof, in caſe the income or poſtage ariſing from ſuch eſtabliſhment ſhould not be ſufficient to defray ſuch expence.

Reſolved, That the ſaid Poſt-Maſter-General be, and he is hereby deſired to eſtabliſh a communication, by Poſt-Riders, between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern parts of this State as far as *Fort-Pitt*, and to collect, receive and account for the poſtages thence ariſing, for the term of ſeven years, to commence at and from the firſt day of *May* next, on ſuch plan, and to be performed by ſuch routs, ſtages, and poſt-offices as ſhall be approved and aſſented to by the Supreme Executive Council from time to time. And that in caſe the poſtages and other revenues thence ariſing ſhall not be equal to the neceſſary expences of ſuch eſtabliſhment, this Houſe will make proviſion for paying ſuch deficiency annually during the ſaid ſeven years. Provided that ſuch deficiency ſhall not exceed the ſum of one hundred pounds in any one year: And provided alſo, that the whole of the ſaid poſtages and revenues ariſing from the ſaid eſtabliſhment, after defraying the uſual and neceſſary expences thereof, ſhall be annually accounted for as the property of the State, during the ſaid ſeven years.

The report of the committee on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, relative to *Aaron Doan*, now under ſentence of death, read *April* 4, was read the ſecond time and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Your committee to whom the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council of the 29th of *March* laſt, together with the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, were referred, do now report,

That after duly conſidering the ſaid meſſage and papers, it appears to your committee, that a certain *Aaron Doan*, late of the townſhip of *Plumſtead*, in the county of *Bucks*, yeoman, was indicted, at a court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery, held at *Newtown* in and for the county of *Bucks*, on the 1ſt day of *October*, 1782, before the Juſtices of the Supreme Court of this State, &c. by a Grand Jury of the ſaid county, of a robbery of £656 13 4 in money, and ſome other articles, from *John Hart*, eſquire, in his dwelling houſe in *Newtown*, in the ſaid county, committed on the 22d day of *October*, 1781. That the ſaid *Aaron Doan* was, at the ſaid court called upon to anſwer to the ſaid felony and robbery, but did not appear: Whereupon, a writ of *Capias* was awarded to the Sheriff of the county of *Bucks*, by the ſaid Juſtices, returnable before the ſame Juſtices, at the Supreme Court to be held at *Philadelphia* for the ſaid State, on the 10th day of *April* next following, directing the ſaid Shcriff to take the ſaid *Aaron Doan*, if he might be found in his bailiwick, to anſwer to the felony and robbery whereof he was indicted as aforeſaid, and if he could not be found, that then the ſaid Sheriff ſhould make proclamation in every Court of Quarter Seſſions which ſhould be held in his bailiwick, between the coming of the ſaid writ to his hands, and the day of the return thereof, that the ſaid *Aaron Doan* ſhould appear before the Juſtices of the Supreme Court of the State of *Pennſylvania*, on the 10th day of *April* then next following, which would be in the year 1783, to anſwer to the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, of the felony and robbery aforeſaid, whereof he was indicted, &c. which was iſſued accordingly and delivered to the ſaid Sheriff in due form of law to be executed, who afterwards at the ſaid next Supreme Court at *Philadelphia* made return to the ſaid writ of *Capias*, that the ſaid *Aaron Doan* could not be found in his bailiwick, and that he had cauſed public proclamation to be made at two ſeveral Courts of General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace, held at *Newtown* for the ſaid county of *Bucks*, to wit, on the 10th day of *December* then laſt, and on the 11th day of *March* then laſt, there having been no other Courts of Quarter Seſſions held in the ſame county between the coming of the ſame writ to his hands and the day of the return thereof, for the ſaid *Aaron Doan* to appear at the ſaid Supreme Court at the day and time in the writ of *Capias* ſpecified, to anſwer to the felony and robbery whereof the ſaid *Aaron Doan* ſtood indicted.

That the ſaid *Aaron Doan* was publicly and ſolemnly called at the Supreme Court on the ſame 10th day of *April*, to appear and anſwer to the ſaid felony and robbery whereof he was indicted as aforeſaid, but, that he did not appear, &c. whereupon his default was recorded, and it was conſidered by the Juſtices of the ſaid Supreme Court, that the ſaid *Aaron Doan* be out-lawed and attainted of the felony and robbery whereof he was indicted as aforeſaid, and he was out-lawed and attainted thereof accordingly.—That at a Supreme Court held at *Philadelphia*, on the 24th day of *September*, 1784 the ſaid *Aaron Doan* was, by a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, brought before the Juſtices thereof by *Thomas Proctor*, eſquire, High Sheriff of the city and county of *Philadelphia* (in whoſe cuſtody he had been for the cauſe aforeſaid committed) and it was thereupon demanded of the ſaid *Aaron Doan* by the ſaid Court, if he had or knew any thing to ſay, wherefore the ſaid Court ought not to award execution

tion againſt him the ſaid *Aaron Doan* upon the out-lawry and attainder aforeſaid, of him the ſaid *Aaron Doan* of the felony and robbery aforeſaid, who nothing ſaid, therefore it was conſidered by the ſaid juſtices that execution be done upon the ſaid *Aaron Doan*, upon the out-lawry and attainder of the ſame *Aaron Doan* of the felony and robbery aforeſaid.

That the Preſident and Council, on the 22d of *November* laſt, wrote to the Judges, that they the ſaid Council had doubts and difficulties with reſpect to their iſſuing a warrant for the execution of *Aaron Doan*, it being a caſe of a novel and extraordinary nature, and being once eſtabliſhed as a precedent might greatly affect the lives, liberties and fortunes of the freemen of the Commonwealth, and therefore they requeſted the Judges to anſwer nine queſtions which were then propoſed to them. We find, that three of the Judges, (the fourth being abſent from this city having not ſeen the queſtions), on the 15th of *January* laſt, ſent their anſwer to the ſeveral queſtions propoſed, and concluded with their former opinion, that *Aaron Doan* had been duly out-lawed, and execution had been legally awarded againſt him.

Your committee further obſerve, that in the preamble of an act of Aſſembly entitled, "*An act to encourage the ſpeedy apprehending and bringing to juſ-*" *tice divers robbers, burglars and felons*," enacted the 8th of *September*, 1783, it is recited, that *Aaron Doan* among others, had been duly attainted by outlawry, in the Supreme Court of this State, of ſeveral robberies, burglaries and felonies, by him committed, &c. and that by the ſaid act, a reward of 300l. was offered for the apprehending and delivering him to the Sheriff, &c. That he was committed into cuſtody of the Sheriff of *Philadelphia*, in conſequence of the laſt recited act, and the reward paid accordingly. The Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, notwithſtanding, are of opinion, that a warrant cannot be legally iſſued for the putting the ſaid *Aaron Doan* to death upon the ſaid out-lawry, and have ſubmitted it to the conſideration of this Houſe, whether it is adviſeable to reverſe the out-lawry, by an act of Aſſembly, in order that the party, according to his prayer, may have a trial by Jury for the offence with which he is charged.

Your committee, on the foregoing ſtate of the caſe, beg leave to obſerve, that the Judges of the Supreme Court of this State are, by the Conſtitution and laws, the High Court of Judicature in all capital and criminal caſes; that they act under the obligation of a ſolemn oath, and are entruſted with the power of declaring what the law is; that they have heard the ſeveral difficulties of the honorable Council, argued in behalf of the priſoner, and all others that ingenuity could ſuggeſt, by two learned counſel, and alſo the proſecutor for the State; and finally, as well in open Court, as ſince in writing, to the Council under their hands, they have declared the law to be, that the ſaid *Aaron Doan* is duly out-lawed, and execution legally awarded againſt him.

Your committee are of opinion, that the Supreme Executive Council are not intruſted by the Conſtitution nor laws, to declare what the law is; that the Council have no Judicial power in this caſe, nor are they under any obligation of an oath to decide, whether this out-lawry is legal or not; neither have they heard the cauſe litigated before them, and that they cannot give any Judicial determination in any ſuch caſe, having the power only to reprieve or pardon, or to iſſue a warrant for the execution, to the Sheriff of the county where the Supreme Court ſits. Your committee are further of opinion, that there are certain periods of time, when all pleas or exceptions are to be made in a cauſe, and that it would be improper to receive them afterwards, that a judgment of Court may be voidable for errors, if aſſigned in a proper time and manner, but if not ſo aſſigned, the judgment is not held to be erroneous, but good; and in this caſe the Preſident and Council are not reſponſible for the judgment of the court.

Upon the whole, your committee report the following reſolution, to wit.

Reſolved, That it is not adviſeable for this Houſe to reverſe the out-lawry of *Aaron Doan,* by any act of General Aſſembly, nor in any manner to intermeddle or interfere therewith, but that the laws in being ſhould have their courſe.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the regulation of Bankruptcy,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act for eſtabliſhing the office of a Regiſter of all German paſſengers who ſhall arrive at the port of Philadelphia, and for all indentures by which any of them ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight, and of the aſſignments of ſuch ſervants in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A member preſented to the Chair a tranſcript of the exonerations of taxes in the county of *Waſhington,* for the year 1783.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Eyre,* Mr. *R. Craig,* Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Loller* to report thereon.

The committee appointed this forenoon, on the letters from the Comptroller General, relative to the accounts of *Samuel J. Atlee, Joſeph Montgomery,* and *Robert Harris,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 24 laſt, on the petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Wyoming,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entitled, " *An act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports, paſtimes and diſſipation,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act for ſecuring the eſtates real and perſonal which have or may eſcheat in this Commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act to repeal part of an act of Aſſembly entitled,* " An act to prevent the erecting any new and independent State within the limits of this Commonwealth," *ſo far as it directs trial for offences in another county than that in which the offence was or might have been committed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, " *An act for regulating the meaſurement of all kinds of corn and ſalt, imported into the port of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *A ſupplement to the act entitled,* “ An act for building “ market houſes and keeping a public market on both ſides of *Callow-Hill-* “ *ſtreet,* and *New-Market-ſtreet,* in the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Phi-* “ *ladelphia,* was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to appropriate the ſum of pounds* “ *of the public monies to the laying out and making of high ways from the weſt-* “ *ern parts of* Cumberland *county, to the town of* Pittſburg, *and to authoriſe* “ *the Preſident in Council to appoint Commiſſioners to lay out the ſame,*” which was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entitled, “ *An act to compel the ſpeedy ſettlement and the paying or* “ *ſecuring of the debts due to this State, for lands held by location or other office right,* “ *obtained before the* 10*th of* December, 1776, *and yet remaining unpatented,*” was read the ſecond time,

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons ſo intitled as aforeſaid, to any lands within ſaid *Indian* purchaſe in this State and yet remaining unpatented, ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay or ſecure the purchaſe money or arrearages of purchaſe money due to the State and demand a patent for the ſame, in the manner herein before directed, on or before the tenth day of *April,* which will be in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſeven, every ſuch perſon and perſons ſo neglecting or refuſing ſhall be barred and precluded from the benefit intended by this act with reſpect to farther time of payment, and ſhall be forthwith proſecuted and proceeded againſt for the monies due on ſuch lands by ſale of the ſaid lands according to law without farther delay.

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Conaughy,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lilly,* to ſtrike out the words “ *eighty-ſeven,*” in order to inſert in lieu thereof, the words, “ *eighty-eight.*”

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *M‘Conaughy* and Mr. *Woods,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Henry Miller,*
3. *John Hay,*
4. *Philip Gartner,*
5. *David M‘Conaughy,*
6. *Henry Tyſon,*
7. *Joſeph Lilly,*

YEAS.

8. *Frederick Watts,*
9. *Robert Brown,*
10. *George Woods,*
11. *Robert Cluggage,*
12. *Thomas Morton,*
13. *Abraham Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*

NAYS.

9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *Edward Jones,*
11. *Robert Ralſton,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *Charles Humphreys,*
15. *James Mercer,*
16. *John Craig,*

NAYS

N A Y S.

17. *Adam Orth,*
18. *Samuel Boyd,*
19. *William Stoy,*
20. *David Jenkins,*
21. *Robert Clark,*
22. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
23. *John Harris,*
24. *Robert Whitehill,*
25. *Nicholas Lutz,*
26. *David Davis,*
27. *Philip Kreemer,*
28. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29. *Peter Burkhalter,*
30. *Jonas Hartzel,*
31. *John Ralſton,*
32. *Frederick Antes,*
33. *Daniel Montgomery,*
34. *Samuel Dale,*
35. *John M'Dowell,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *Peter Richards,*
38. *George Smith,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the following paragraph be adopted?*" viz.

And whereas, the ſettlers upon the lands beyond the *Allegheny* mountains have been very great ſufferers by the ravages of the *Indians* during the late war, and thereby for many years have been prevented from the cultivation of the lands poſſeſſed by them, and it is reaſonable, that during the term of the ſaid war, the intereſt accruing upon the purchaſe money due and payable as aforeſaid ſhould be given up to all actual ſettlers on the lands lying and being north weſtward of the ſame mountain;

Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all actual ſettlers upon lands ſituated on the weſt ſide of the *Allegheny* mountains as aforeſaid, ſhall be exonerated and acquitted of intereſt accruing as aforeſaid, from the 1ſt of *January*, in the year of our Lord 1776, till the 1ſt of *January*, which was in the year of our Lord 1784, provided they reſpectively pay or ſecure the purchaſe money of the lands by them ſeverally claimed in the manner and within the time, heretofore mentioned.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

Y E A S.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *William Moore,*
3. *Frederick Kuhl,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Perſifor Frazer,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *James Mercer,*
9. *William Stoy,*
10. *Robert Clark,*
11. *Frederick Watts,*
12. *John Harris,*
13. *Robert Whitehill,*
14. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15. *Jonas Hartzel,*
16. *George Woods,*
17. *Robert Cluggage,*
18. *Frederick Antes,*
19. *Daniel Montgomery,*
20. *William Finley,*
21. *Thomas Morton,*
22. *John M'Dowell,*
23. *John Smiley,*
24. *Abraham Smith,*
25. *James M'Calmont,*
26. *Peter Richards,*
27. *George Smith,*
28. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

N A Y S.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Joſeph Thomas,*
4. *Richard Willing,*

NAYS.

5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *John Craig,*
9. *Adam Orth,*
10. *Samuel Boyd,*
11. *David Jenkins,*
12. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *John Hay,*
15. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

16. *David M'Conaughy,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Joſeph Lilly,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Chriſtian Lower,*
21. *David Davis,*
22. *Philip Kreemer,*
23. *Peter Burkhalter,*
24. *Robert Brown,*
25. *John Ralſton,*
26. *Samuel Dale,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Whereupon, The aforeſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs. *Ordered,* That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, April 8, 1785, A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The repreſentation of the faculty of the Univerſity of Pennſylvania, read *March* 10 laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted ſo far as the ſame reſpects the depoſiting of the aſtronomical inſtruments in the ſaid Univerſity.

A Member preſented to the chair a motion which was read, and the ſame being conſidered, was adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas by the return of, and ſettlement by the Comptroller General of the accounts of the lieutenants and ſub lieutenants, of the different counties of this ſtate, there appears to be large balances due to the ſtate. Therefore,

Reſolved, That the Comptroller General be, and he is hereby directed to proceed to the recovery of the ſaid balances, without further delay.

The memorial of the committee of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* read *April* 6, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this houſe, that the privilege in the degree hitherto retained by the ſtates individually, of controuling and regulating their own trade, is no longer compatible with the general intereſt and welfare of the United States; reaſon and experience clearly evincing that ſuch privilege is productive of mutual inconveniences and injuries amongſt ourſelves, and that the ſyſtems of ſeveral nations by which our merchants are excluded from the moſt beneficial branches of their commerce, whilſt the whole of ours is laid open to them, cannot be conſiſtently or effectually counteracted but by a unity of councils, in the grand repreſentative body of the United States.

Reſolved, therefore, That Congreſs be requeſted to deviſe ſuch a ſyſtem of commercial powers as they ought neceſſarily to be inveſted with, to be recommended to the ſtates; and that Congreſs be aſſured of finding the moſt ſuitable diſpoſition on the part of *Pennſylvania* to comply there with.

The letter from the Comptroller General read *April* 6, relative to the accounts of the State Treaſurer, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, that the Comptroller General be directed to have the ſame ſtated and publiſhed, together with a ſtate of the accounts of the ſeveral counties for their taxes.

The houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, read *February* 25 laſt, on the petition of *Hannah Nevil.* Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted to draw an order on the treaſury of this ſtate, for the ſum of thirty pounds in favour of the ſaid *Hannah Nevil.*

A petition from the inhabitants of the *Little Cove* in *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *April* 7, on the letters from the Comptroller General relative to the accounts of *Samuel J. Atlee* and *Joſeph Montgomery,* eſquires, and Dr. *Robert Harris;* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom was referred the ſeveral reports from the Comptroller General of the 16th of *February* laſt, reſpecting the accounts of the honorable *Samuel J. Atlee,* of the 21ſt of *March* laſt, reſpecting the accounts of the honorable *Joſeph Montgomery,* and of the 7th of *April* inſtant, reſpecting the accounts of Doctor *Robert Harris,* report,

That the two former of the ſaid reports reſpect the accounts of delegates from this ſtate to Congreſs, and the monies by them received for or on account of their ſervices in the ſaid capacities, by order of the Supreme Executive Council or otherwiſe. Your committee therefore apprehend that any errors therein may be corrected by Council, or by the Comptroller General, and therefore it is not neceſſary for the houſe to take order thereon.

That the report on the accounts of Doctor *Harris,* being made purſuant to directions of an act of Aſſembly in ſuch caſe made and provided; and it appearing to your committee that errors have been committed in the ſettlement of the ſaid accounts, they offer the following reſolution;

Reſolved, That the Comptroller General be directed to reviſe and re-ſettle the accounts of the ſaid Docter *Robert Harris,* according to right and juſtice.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the letter from *Thomas Scott, James Edgar,* and *John M'Dowell,* was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That an order be drawn in favour of *John M'Dowel,* eſq. for the ſum of twenty nine pounds ten ſhillings, to be paid to the following perſons, *viz.*

To *John M'Dowell,* eſq.	4	10	0	*Brought forward,*	17	0	0
James Edgar, eſq.	4	10	0	*Van Swearingen,* ſheriff	6	0	0
Thomas Scott, eſq.	4	10	0	*David Bradford,* for clerking and copying depoſitions.	6	10	0
John Craig, eſq.	3	10	0				
Carried £	17	0	0	£.	29	10	0

The houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, on the petition from divers inhabitants of *Wyoming;* whereupon,

Reſolved, That the honorable *John Bayard,* eſq. *Perſifor Frazer,* and *George Smith,* eſquires, be and they are hereby appointed a committee, inſtructed to proceed to *Wyoming* as ſoon as may be, and there make ſuch enquiry as to them or any two of them ſhall appear neceſſary for the peace and good order of the people, and the regular adminiſtration of juſtice, and report thereon to this houſe in their next ſeſſion, and that the ſaid committee before they proceed to *Wyoming,* confer with the Supreme Executive Council and in the mean time as early as may be report to Council, the ſtate of the inhabitants reſpecting the diſputes and diſorders ſubſiſting there.

Ordered, That the pay of the ſaid gentlemen be three dollars, *per diem* each.

The report of the committee read *March* 29 laſt, on the petition of *William Robinſon*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioner be called upon by the commiſſioners of *Lancaſter* county, and examined in the preſence of one or more of the members of Aſſembly for ſaid county, reſpecting the premiſes, and report to this houſe at their next ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *March* 18 laſt, on the petition of *Jacob Van Foſſer* made report, which was read, and on motion and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the commiſſioners of the county of *Montgomery*, together with the members of Aſſembly for the ſaid county, be and they are hereby conſtituted and appointed to hear the ſaid *Jacob Van Foſſer*, reſpecting what he has to alledge concerning his being robbed, with his witneſſes in ſupport of the ſame; and make report of their proceedings to this houſe at their next ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *March* 25 laſt, on the report of the commiſſioners of *Lancaſter* county, reſpecting a robbery committed on *Jacob Fautz*, collector of exciſe in the ſaid county, made report which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *April* 6, on the petitions praying for a reviſion of the teſt laws, was read the ſecond time, as follows *viz.*

The committee to whom ſundry petitions from divers perſons, who call themſelves reſidents and inhabitants of this ſtate, and who alledge that they have for ſeveral years, been deprived of their natural rights, and have repeatedly applied to ſeveral of the Aſſemblies of this ſtate for a reſtoration of them, but without effect &c. were referred, do now report, that they have read and conſidered the ſame, and made the following obſervations thereon.

It appears they pretend to have a right to elect officers, and to be elected into office, and to all other privileges of citizens of this commonwealth, meerly from reſidency and inhabitancy within the ſtate for ſeveral years; and in ſupport of this pretence they cite the 1ſt, 7th, 8th, and 16th ſections of that part of the conſtitution of this ſtate, called the Declaration of the Rights &c. and alſo the 6th, 9th, and 10th ſections of the Frame of Government.

And laſtly, they accuſe the legiſlature with having arbitrarily and in direct violation of the conſtitution, deprived them from exerciſing the right of citizenſhip, which they ſeem to think is a natural right.

To anſwer claims or accuſations, founded on ſuch erroneous principles, is often more diſagreeable than to encounter the moſt plauſible and decent, tho' erroneous arguments; notwithſtanding this we have condeſcended to undertake the taſk. It does not appear from any of the petitions, who the ſubſcribers are, whether aliens, attainted perſons, non jurors, or diſaffected to the government; but we are in the moſt charitable conſtruction led to conclude from them, that they are men, who on the 13th day of *June* 1777, were required by a poſitive law of the ſtate, (then at open war, together with the reſt of the United States of America, againſt the king of Great Britain, for the defence of life, liberty, and every thing valuable in this world,) to renounce their former allegiance to the ſaid king, and to give an aſſurance, on oath or affirmation, of their allegiance and fidelity to this Commonwealth, under the penalty of forfeiting ſome of the privileges of citizens; that they refuſed to comply with this reaſonable and neceſſary requiſition, and voluntarily ſubmitted to the penalty, of whom nevertheleſs the commonwealth did not finally take the forfeiture, until they were called upon again, in like manner, on the 1ſt day of *April* 1778, and a third time on the 5th day of *December* 1778, and laſtly on the 1ſt day of *October* 1779; that therefore they are men, who for upwards of three years and four months after the declaration of independence, obſtinately refuſed to give this evidence of their having a ſufficient evident common intereſt with and attatchment to the community, to the great concern of all the friends to the revolution, and in open contempt and defiance of the laws of the ſtate. What the motives of theſe men were for refuſing to give this ſatisfaction to their countrymen, they have not told us, nor will we poſitively ſay, but are naturally conſtrained to believe that they were owing either to their being profeſſed Britiſh ſubjects, or enemies to liberty and the rights of mankind, or cowards that meanly ſkulked to ſkreen themſelves and their property in the hour of difficulty and danger, from the ſavage cruelties of the Britiſh army, while their country was bleeding under their depredations. Can ſuch men expect to enjoy all the privileges and advantages, ariſing from our late glorious revolution, equally with thoſe heroes, patriots, and virtuous perſons, who (next under God) procured them at every hazard of life and fortune, not only without their aſſiſtance, but againſt their efforts, or at leaſt their inclinations? yes, they ſay they expect it, and that they have a right to free citizenſhip by the conſtitution.

Theſe petitioners had no ſhare in the declaration of independence, in the formation of our conſtitution, or in eſtabliſhing them by arms, they were not of the people, on whoſe authority only the great ſtructure was erected. It cannot be ſuppoſed that any ſociety would without great caution receive perſons as members, whoſe wiſhes and endeavours had been to deſtroy it. From the nature of civil government, and the fundamental principles of ſelf-preſervation, every civil ſociety muſt neceſſarily have a right of demanding of its members aſſurances of their fidelity to it, even under the penalty of being deprived of all the privileges of memberſhip, or of being diſowned altogether.

We will now enquire whether there are any words in the conſtitution of our State, that will authoriſe a conſtruction, which is contrary to fundamental principles, contrary to common ſenſe, and that muſt inevitably ſooner or later effect its diſſolution. The petitioners have the modeſty to quote the 7th ſection of the declaration of rights &c. which is the baſis upon which the whole ſuperſtructure muſt depend. It is in theſe words, "that all free-"men having a ſufficient evident common intereſt with, and attachment to "the community, have a right to elect officers, or to be elected into office," now we would aſk, who are to aſcertain what is to be ſufficient evidence of this intereſt and attachment? Individuals are not competent to it, for a difference in opinion might happen; and no man ought to be permitted to judge finally in his own cauſe. The legiſlature then muſt have this power; they repreſent the whole community, and accordingly they have preſcribed a *Teſt* to be the evidence that is ſufficient; this has been the ancient and accuſtomed mark of diſtinction between the friends and enemies of a government, indeed the only general one that we can find in hiſtory, except an *aſſociation*. This teſt the petitioners have hitherto refuſed to give, and they do not now offer to do it, or to give any other even the ſmalleſt evidence of their attachment to the community; they cannot therefore either by the ſpirit or letter of this ſection of the conſtitution, by law or reaſon, be entitled to any ſhare in the government of this community; to entruſt ſuch men with rule, is incompatible with the ſafety of the commonwealth. The other ſections of the conſtitution which they have quoted, relate to citizens, or members of the ſociety only; but the petitioners are only ſubjects, and they as well as all aliens, are protected by the government and laws, *&c.* therefore owe obedience, notwithſtanding they have no ſhare in the elections.

Your committee beg leave further to remark on the ſtile uſed by the petitioners; inſtead of acknowledging their paſt miſconduct, expreſſing their ſorrow and penitence, promiſing amendment, and to be faithful citizens in future, and offering to take the teſt, and thereupon humbly praying forgiveneſs, and to be admitted into full citizenſhip, they have in the moſt arrogant manner arraigned the laws and juſtice of their country, and charged it as a grievance that they are are not permitted to govern a ſtate, which they do not now even pretend the leaſt regard for, and which they do not deny they heretofore wiſhed, if not endeavoured to deſtroy. In fine, the moſt favourable conſtruction we can make for theſe men is, that they are blind, and have put themſelves under the guidance of blind leaders.

Upon the whole, your committee have come to the following reſolutions:

1ſt. That this government has an inherent and unqueſtionable right to exact a teſt of allegiance from all perſons within it, at ſuch times, and in ſuch manner as the preſervation of the ſtate ſhall require.

2d. That it would be impolitic and dangerous to admit perſons, who have been inimical to the ſovereignty and independence of this ſtate, to have a common participation in the government ſo ſoon after the war.

3d. That the aforeſaid petitions be diſmiſſed.

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid report?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Humphreys* and Mr. *Frazer*, and are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *James Mercer,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *William Stoy,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *John Harris,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*

YEAS.

22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *Chriſtian Lower,*
24. *David Davis,*
25. *Philip Kreemer,*
26. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
27. *Peter Burkhalter,*
28. *Robert Brown,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *John Ralſton,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *Samuel Dale,*
34. *William Finley,*
35. *Thomas Morton,*
36. *John M‘Dowell,*
37. *John Smiley,*
38. *James Johnſton,*
39. *Abraham Smith,*
40. *James M‘Calmont,*
41. *Peter Richards,*
42. *Robert Loller.*

NAYS.

NAYS.	NAYS.
1. *Richard Willing,*	9. *David M'Conaughy,*
2. *Edward Jones,*	10. *Henry Tyſon,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*	11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*	12. *George Woods,*
5. *Robert M'Pherſon,*	13. *Robert Cluggage,*
6. *Henry Miller,*	14. *Matthew Ritchie,*
7. *John Hay,*	15. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*
8. *Philip Gartner,*	

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Committee appointed to aſcertain the mode of diſtributing the Laws d Minutes throughout this State, made report, which was read; and on otion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adoptd as follows, *viz.*

Your Committee appointed to aſcertain the number of the Laws and Miutes belonging to each county, and the mode of diſtributing the ſame roughout the ſtate, beg leave to report, that the diviſion be as follows:

	Laws.	*Minutes.*		*Laws.*	*Minutes.*
he City -	100	90	*Bedford,* -	70	50
he County -	90	90	*Northumberland,*	70	50
ucks, -	100	90	*Weſtmoreland,*	65	50
heſter,	130	100	*Waſhington,* -	65	50
ancaſter & *Dauphin,*	140	100	*Fayette,* -	50	50
ork, -	120	90	*Franklin,* -	70	50
umberland, -	90	70	*Montgomery,* -	60	50
erks, -	90	60			
orthampton, -	90	60		1400	1100

Reſolved, That the Clerk be directed to deliver to each and every one of the embers of the Supreme Executive Council, and every one of the members of ſſembly, one copy of the Laws and Minutes; and alſo to the members of he ſeveral counties of this ſtate, or to their councillors, the number of the aws and minutes annexed to each county, at the expence of the county, to be y them ſent to the Prothonotaries of each county in the following manner, *viz.* One copy of the Laws and one copy of the Minutes to be delivered to each Magiſtrate, and one copy of each to be delivered to the conſtable of each townſhip, to be lodged in ſaid townſhip, at the place where they commonly meet and chooſe their townſhip officers, for the uſe of the ſaid townſhips, and that the remainder thereof be equally diſtributed among the inhabitants of ſaid townſhips, and that the complement of ſaid Laws and Minutes, belonging to the city and county of *Philadelphia,* be delivered by the Clerk to the members of ſaid city and county, to be equally divided amongſt them, and to be by them diſtributed throughout ſaid city and county; and that a copy of the funding bill be delivered to each city and county treaſurer, county commiſſioners, diſtrict aſſeſſors and collectors.

A member preſented to the chair a motion, which was read, and the ſame being conſidered was adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears by the report of a committee of this Houſe, that large ſums of money remain due to the ſtate, on bonds taken by the collector of

4 I

the cuſtoms, which by the tenor and condition of the ſaid bonds, reſpectively became due and payable at various periods now paſt.

And whereas it is requiſite and neceſſary, that ſuch arrearages ſhould b ſpeedily paid and collected, in order to anſwer the ſeveral demands charge upon the ſame;

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be and they are hereby deſired to order the ſaid collector to uſe his utmoſt diligence to obtain paymen of all the ſaid arrearages; and if any of the ſaid arrearages now due, ſhall remain unpaid on the firſt day of *June* next, that the ſaid collector be directed forthwith to put the bonds on which ſuch monies ſhall be ſo due, into the hands of the Attorney-General, to be proſecuted upon without delay o reſpect of perſons.

A member preſented to the chair a motion, which was read and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the making marginal notes to the many laws enacted this ſeſſion as well as the ſuperintending the printing the laws and bills to be publiſhed &c. will require the attendance of the Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, for a conſiderable time during the receſs of the Houſe, and it is juſt and reaſonabl that a compenſation for their trouble be allowed them. Therefore,

Reſolved, That they ſeverally keep an account of the number of days they ſhall be employed as above; and that the Speaker be and is hereby empowered and directed to draw orders on the Treaſurer for the payment thereof.

The bill entitled, "*An Act for the relief of divers officers late of the Stat "navy*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Boys*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *Richard Willing*,
11. *Edward Jones*,
12. *Robert Ralſton*,
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
14. *Perſifor Frazer*,
15. *Charles Humphreys*,
16. *Adam Orth*,
17. *Samuel Boyd*,

YEAS.

18. *William Stoy*,
19. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
20. *Henry Miller*,
21. *John Hay*,
22. *Philip Gartner*,
23. *David M'Conaughy*,
24. *Joſeph Lilly*,
25. *John Harris*,
26. *Nicholas Lutz*,
27. *Philip Kreemer*,
28. *Jonas Hartzel*,
29. *George Woods*,
30. *Robert Cluggage*,
31. *Frederick Antes*,
32. *Matthew Ritchie*,
33. *Peter Richards*,
34. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Joſeph Thomas*,
2. *Arthur Erwin*,
3. *John Craig*,
4. *David Jenkins*,
5. *Frederick Watts*,

NAYS.

6. *Robert Whitehill*,
7. *Chriſtian Lower*,
8. *David Davis*,
9. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
10. *Peter Burkhalter*,

NAYS.

11. *Robert Brown,*
12. *John Ralſton,*
13. *Daniel Montgomery,*
14. *Samuel Dale,*
15. *Thomas Morton,*

NAYS.

16. *John M‘Dowell,*
17. *James Johnſton,*
18. *Abraham Smith.*
19. *James M‘Calmont,*
20. *Robert Loller.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An act to veſt the perſonal eſtate of the late Corporation of the Mayor and Commonalty of the city of Philadelphia, *in the wardens of the ſaid city; and to direct the immediate ſale of the old goal and work-houſe of the county of* Philadelphia, *and to appropriate the ſaid perſonal eſtate, and part of the monies to ariſe from the ſale of the ſaid goal and work-houſe, to the building of two court-houſes, one for the ſaid city, the other for the ſaid county, on the ſtate-houſe lot in the ſaid city, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

A Supplement to the act entitled, " An act for acknowledging and recording of deeds.

An act for eſtabliſhing the office of a Regiſter of all German paſſengers who ſhall arrive at the port of Philadelphia, and of all indentures by which any of them ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight, and of the aſſignments of ſuch ſervants in the city of Philadelphia.

An act to provide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-Office and in the ſurveying of lands.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The motion read *March* 4th laſt, reſpecting the irregular breaking up of the late houſe of Aſſembly, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Miller* ſeconded by Mr *Lilly*, to inſert the words " *and diſorderly*" after the word "*haſty*."

And the Yeays and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Miller*, and Mr. *Lilly*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *James Mercer,*
9. *John Craig,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *Samuel Boyd,*
12. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *John Hay,*

YEAS.

15. *Philip Gartner,*
16. *David M‘Conaughy,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Joſeph Lilly,*
19. *Robert Brown,*
20. *Jonas Hartzel,*
21. *George Woods,*
22. *Robert Cluggage,*
23. *Matthew Ritchie,*
24. *James Johnſton,*
25. *Peter Richards,*
26. *Robert Loller,*
27. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *William Stoy,*
11. *David Jenkins,*
12. *Robert Clark,*
13. *Frederick Watts,*
14. *John Harris,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*

NAYS.

17. *Chriſtian Lower,*
18. *David Davis,*
19. *Philip Kreemer,*
20. *Peter Burkhalter,*
21. *John Ralſton,*
22. *Frederick Antes,*
23. *Daniel Montgomery,*
24. *Samuel Dale,*
25. *William Finley,*
26. *Thomas Morton,*
27. *John M'Dowell,*
28. *John Smiley,*
29. *Abraham Smith,*
30. *James M'Calmont,*
31. *George Smith.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The original motion was then amended as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the laſt ſeſſion of the eighth General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, was broken up in a haſty manner, by the ſeceſſion of a number of the members; this Houſe conceive it to be their duty to ſtate on their minutes the following facts and obſervations, leſt on one hand this tranſaction ſhall be drawn into a precedent on ſome leſs important occaſion; or on the other hand from a too rigid adherence to form, or from timidity in the repreſentatives of a free people, meaſures may be carried in a thin houſe, at the moment of cloſing a ſeſſion, injurious of their rights, and ſubverſive of the conſtitution.

July 30, 1784, The Houſe met.

September 15, Petitions from a few inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were preſented to the Houſe, praying the teſt law may be reviſed.

September 16, Was read the ſecond time and referred to a committee.

23, This committee made a report, which was read, and on motion and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time, and reſolved to go into a committee of the whole next day.

September 24, The chairman of the committee of the whole made report, which was read; and on the queſtion, Will the Houſe take up the ſaid report by ſpecial order, for a third reading? the Yeas and Nays being called, and carried in the negative.

September 25, The Houſe adopted the report of the whole, and appointed a committee for the purpoſe of bringing in a bill. The committee report a bill entitled, "*A farther ſupplement to the teſt laws.*"

Monday, *September* 27, Bill was read the ſecond time, ordered to be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Tueſday, 28, Motion for taking up the bill for a third reading, on which the Yeas and Nays were called; Yeas, 25. Nays 25.

Wedneſday 29, No Houſe—Reſolve to appoint a committee.—Met again—ordered that 400 copies of an addreſs to the people be printed.

From the facts thus ſtated, this Houſe cannot avoid expreſſing their great concern, that the meaſure of diſcriminating between thoſe who reſcued this happy country from oppreſſion and ſlavery, and thoſe who refuſed even to declare

clare they took a general common intereſt in it, was with ſuch precipitance attempted to be hurried through the Houſe. A meaſure calculated to give the right of citizenſhip, to many whoſe rancour and enmity to our independence, and attachment to the *Britiſh* intereſt, are not abated, and which had been almoſt unanimouſly rejected a few months before. We regret that the repreſentatives of the freemen of the ſtate, not being more than one third, ſhould endanger the public peace, by purſuing a line of conduct ſo obnoxious to their conſtituents, that they ſhould attempt to continue the exerciſe of their powers as a Houſe, and the ſtile of legiſlation by meeting again and again, appointing a committee, diſpoſing of the public money in orders, to print their papers, addreſſing the good people of the ſtate.

We do therefore think it our duty to declare, that ſuch their proceedings were unauthoriſed, illegal, and unconſtitutional; that the entries made after the Houſe was diſſolved, cannot and ought not to be conſidered as any part of the proceedings of the legiſlature of this ſtate: and in juſtice to the characters and feelings of a reſpectable part of the then repreſentatives of the people, to order to be inſerted on the minutes of this ſeſſion, the following proteſt, which was offered in a full Houſe, but which has been ſuppreſſed from the printed minutes, and not to be found on the files of that ſeſſion. This we do, that the good people of this ſtate may have full information, and be enabled, at this or any future time, to judge fully and impartially of the merits or demerits of this tranſaction.

The REASONS *of* DISSENT *referred to above.*

Firſt, FOR that we conceive it to be a dictate of reaſon and natural equity, that thoſe who declined to participate in the toils, and ſacrifices, and the hazard of the late revolution, ſhould not enjoy all the benefit and advantages ariſing from that ineſtimable bleſſing.

Secondly, Such are the numbers of thoſe, who from motives of timidity, avarice, or attachment to the cauſe of *Britiſh* tyranny, refuſed to enroll their names in the honorable liſt of patriots, at the ſeaſon of war and danger, that in ſeveral of the principal counties of the ſtate, ſhould the meaſure in contemplation take effect, elections might reaſonably be expected to be carried in favour of men who execrated the alliance of the United States with his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and ſtill cheriſh the hope of a ſubordinate re-union with *Great Britain*. And we are convinced no men ſhould rule a ſociety which they wiſh to deſtroy.

Thirdly, The Conſtitution has expreſſly provided, that "All bills of a public nature ſhall be printed for the conſideration of the people, and except on occaſions of ſudden neceſſity, ſhall not be paſſed into laws, until the next ſeſſion of Aſſembly." No ſudden neceſſity exiſts on the preſent occaſion; on the contrary in a few days a new Aſſembly will be convened, furniſhed with the inſtructions of the people at large. Nor can we conceive other motives for the precipitancy with which it is attempted to finiſh the bill referred to, and to paſs it into a law, at the end of a ſeſſions, in a thin Houſe, conſiſting of but a few more than a quorum, than ſuch as originate in faction, party views, and ſelfiſh conſiderations.

Impreſſed with a deep ſenſe of the important conſequences of the preſent meaſures to ourſelves, our conſtituents, and poſterity; our apprehenſions ſtill further confirmed by the proceedings on the petition of Dr. *William Smith*, and the late truſtees of the college, academy, and charitable ſchool in the city

of

of *Philadelphia, &c.* and that an inſidious petition from the late proprietors, wrote with an apparent deſign to reconcile the minds of the people to the reſtoration of their property, if not to place the government again in their hands, has been reſpectfully noticed in this Houſe and committed, obſerving a myſterious perſeverance in the majority, relying on ſuperiority of numbers, diſdaining to meet in the fair field of reaſon and argument, and treating all obſervation upon the above mentioned points as ſuperfluous, and inſinuating that every member had fully made up his mind upon the ſubject, and was no longer open to conviction; recollecting at the ſame time that the conſtitution has wiſely provided as a check, in a caſe of a deſperate nature, that the minority may prevent the miſchief to the commonwealth that may at any time be feared from a majority, by a ſeceſſion. And firmly believing that our conſtituents, at the time of our aſſembling, held in abhorrence and would have conſidered as the worſt of injuries, and the extreme of degradation, the alteration in our political ſyſtem about to be adopted, by the repeal of the teſt laws. In a matter thus particularly intereſting to all the true friends of the late glorious revolution, we ſhould be undeſerving the confidence and reſpect of the good people of the ſtate, if we did not adopt every conſtitutional meaſure in our power, to prevent thoſe evils and that confuſion which we believe would be the inevitable reſult of a further continuance in this houſe: to your artful and myſterious meaſures, to that ſecret influence, of which we ſee the effects, but are unable to comprehend the cauſe, we leave you: to our conſtituents, and to the community at large, we make the ſolemn appeal; they will determine to whoſe impropriety of conduct is imputable this premature diſſolution of the legiſlature.

William Todd,
Richard Wallace,
Frederick Antes,
Frederick Watts,
James Mercer,
John Clark,
Thomas Long,
Joſeph Thomas,
Joſeph Savitz,
Jacob Stroud,
Robert Brown,
William Brown,
John Craig,
Adam Orth,
Moſes M'Lean,
David Thomas,
William Brown, Cumb.
James Johnſton,
Abraham Smith.

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing motion?*"

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Lilly*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Charles Pettit,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Joſeph Thomas,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *James Mercer,*

YEAS.

13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *Samuel Boyd,*
16. *William Stoy,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *John Harris,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*
22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *Chriſtian Lower,*
24. *David Davis,*

YEAS.

25. *Philip Kreemer,*
26. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
27. *Peter Burkhalter,*
28. *Robert Brown,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *John Ralſton,*
31. *Frederick Antes,*
32. *Daniel Montgomery,*
33. *Samuel Dale,*
34. *William Finley,*
35. *Thomas Morton,*
36. *John M‘Dowell,*
37. *John Smiley,*
38. *James Johnſton,*
39. *Abraham Smith,*
40. *James M‘Calmont,*
41. *Peter Richards,*
42. *Robert Loller,*
43. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Robert Ralſton,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
6. *Henry Miller,*
7. *John Hay,*
8. *Philip Gartner,*
9. *David M‘Conaughy,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That a thouſand copies of the act, entitled, "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States,*" &c. be printed in pamphlets, and diſtributed thro' the ſtate.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the proceedings of the commiſſioners who were appointed in purſuance of a reſolution of the General Aſſembly, of the 25th of *September* 1783, "to hold a treaty with the *Indians* claiming the unpurchaſed territory within the acknowledged limits of this State, for the purpoſe of purchaſing the ſame;" alſo that the deeds, whereby the ſaid territory is veſted in this Commonwealth by the ſaid *Indians,* be entered on the Journals of this Houſe.

Vide Appendix for the above.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported that they had affixed the ſeal of the laws to the following Acts of this Houſe, *viz.*

No. 1. *An act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of Pequea, in the townſhip of Saliſbury, and county of Lancaſter.*

No. 2. *An act to grant to Arthur Donaldſon, his executors, adminiſtrators, and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and uſing in the river Delaware, a machine called Hippopotamos, by him invented, for the cleanſing of docks, and raiſing ſand, gravel, dirt, and other things from the bed of the river.*

No. 3. *An act to enable the courts of quarter ſeſſions of the ſeveral counties of this commonwealth to vacate roads and highways in proper caſes.*

No. 4. *An act for erecting South Dock Ward, being part of Dock Ward, in the city of Philadelphia, into a new ward.*

No. 5. *A ſupplement to the act entituled, "An Act for regulating, pitching, paving and cleanſing the highways, ſtreets, lanes, and alleys; and for regulating, making and amending the water courſes and common ſewers within the inhabited and ſettled parts of the city of Philadelphia, for raiſing of money to defray the expences therein mentioned.*

No. 6. *An act to alter and confirm the charter of the corporation for the relief of the widows*

widows and children of clergymen in communion of the church of England in America.

No. 7. *An act to authoriſe and direct the immediate payment of the ſum of fifteen thouſand pounds ſterling, to the deviſees and legatees of Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, and to the widow and relict of the ſaid Thomas Penn, being the firſt yearly payment directed to be paid to them, by an act of aſſembly of this commonwealth, entitled, "An act for veſting the eſtate of the late proprietaries of Pennſylvania in this commonwealth."*

No. 8. *An act to diſſolve the marriage of Nathaniel Irwin and Martha his wife.*

No. 9. *An act for the better ſecuring perſonal liberty, and preventing wrongful impriſonments.*

No. 10. *An act to give the benefit of trial by jury to public officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the comptroller general of this ſtate.*

No. 11. *An act to repeal an act of aſſembly, entitled, "An act to veſt in Iſaac Auſtin a certain meſſuage, wharf, ferry, and ferry-landing, ſituate on the north ſide of Mulberry-Street, at the eaſternmoſt extremity thereof, in the city of Philadelphia, late the property of William Auſtin, attainted of high treaſon," and to reſtore poſſeſſion of the real eſtate therein mentioned, to George Adam Baker.*

No. 12. *An act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in Abington townſhip in the county of Montgomery.*

No. 13. *An act for erecting part of the county of Lancaſter, into a ſeparate county.*

No. 14. *An act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate.*

No. 15. *An act for the better regulation of juries.*

No. 16. *An act for directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth.*

No. 17. *An act entitled, a farther ſupplement to the act entitled, "An act for raiſing county rates and levies."*

No. 18. *An act for incorporating the Preſbyterian church of Falling Spring in the county of Franklin.*

No. 19. *An act to aſcertain, fix, and eſtabliſh permanent ſalaries for the judges of the ſupreme court.*

No. 20. *An act granting to James Rumſey an excluſive right for a certain term of years, to navigate and build boats calculated to work with greater eaſe and facility againſt rapid rivers.*

No. 21. *An act for the relief of the Pennſylvania volunteers, and eighteen months men.*

No. 22. *An act for the limitation of actions to be brought for the inheritance or poſſeſſion of real property, or upon penal acts of aſſembly.*

No. 23. *An act to regulate the fiſhery in the river Schuylkill.*

No. 24. *An act for veſting in the American Philoſophical Society, held at Philadelphia for promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the ſtate houſe ſquare.*

No. 25. *An act for the relief of inſolvent debtors now confined in the ſeveral goals of this commonwealth.*

No. 26. *An act to authoriſe the holding of priſoners arreſted within the county of Montgomery, for debts and offences in the goal and workhouſe of the county of Philadelphia, until a proper priſon ſhall be erected within the county of Montgomery.*

No. 27. *An act to diſſolve the marriage of Henry Willis with Mary his wife.*

No. 28. *An act for the relief of ſuch perſons as have debts due to them from the eſtates of perſons attainted of treaſon and confiſcated in the late war, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

No. 29. *An act to ſuſpend an act of general aſſembly of this commonwealth, entitled, "A ſupplement to an act entituled, An act to enable William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon, and Joſeph Davis, to build a new court houſe and priſon in the county of Cheſter, and ſell the old court houſe and priſon in the borough of Cheſter.*

No. 30. *An act to repeal an act of aſſembly, entitled, " An act to carry into immediate effect, the reſolutions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for adjuſting the claims of individuals of this commonwealth againſt the ſaid United States.*

No. 31. *An act to authoriſe and enable the Supreme Executive Council to appoint commiſſioners to join with the commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed on the part of the ſtate of New York, to aſcertain the northern boundary of this ſtate from the river Delaware.*

No. 32. *An act to authoriſe the appointment of new commiſſioners to execute the act of aſſembly, entitled, " An act declaring the river Suſquehannah and other ſtreams therein named, public high ways, for improving the navigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams, and for preſerving the fiſh in the ſame," and to extend the powers of the ſaid commiſſioners to all parts of the ſame river within this ſtate.*

No. 33. *An act to enable the agent or agents of his moſt chriſtian majeſty to ſue for and recover in a more ſpeedy way any debt or demand that may be due to them in this ſtate.*

No. 34. *A ſupplement to the acts for raiſing an impoſt on goods, wares and merchandiſe imported, for ſecuring more effectually the revenues ariſing from the ſame.*

No. 35. *An act to declare and eſtabliſh the right of the Executive Council of this commonwealth to appoint all officers civil and military, except in caſes reſerved by the Conſtitution to the General Aſſembly, and to the people; and to repeal the laws whereby certain officers have been appointed contrary thereto, and to ſecure the independency of the Comptroller-General by a commiſſion for ſeven years, and a permanent ſalary, upon condition of his good behaviour only.*

No. 36. *An act for erecting and opening a Loan-Office, for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds.*

No. 37. *An act to repeal and alter ſuch parts of the exciſe laws, and other tax laws of this commonwealth, as empower the collectors of theſe taxes to break open dwelling houſes in order to make ſeizures and diſtreſſes before oath or affirmation be firſt made, affording ſufficient foundation for ſo doing; the acts of aſſembly which authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, to inflict fines in a ſummary manner upon commiſſioners of counties; the acts of aſſembly made for diſcouraging deſertion, ſo as to allow trial by jury to perſons charged with the harbouring or aiding deſerters from the armies or ſhips of the United States of America, or of his moſt chriſtian majeſty; and to reſtore the like privilege to perſons, damaged by ſhips running foul of each other.*

No. 38. *An act to enlarge the ſummary juriſdiction of the juſtices of the peace, in actions of debts or demand to the ſums not exceeding ten pounds, and to repeal an act entituled, " A ſupplement to an act for the more eaſy and ſpeedy recovery of ſmall debts.*

No. 39. *An act to empower the ſupreme executive council to draw on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of five hundred pounds in favour of Thomas Paine, eſquire.*

No. 40. *An act entituled, a further ſupplement to the act entitled, " An act for acknowledging and recording of deeds."*

No. 41. *An act to provide farther regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the land office, and in the ſurveying of lands.*

No. 42. *An act to veſt the perſonal eſtate of the late corporation of the mayor and commonalty of the city of Philadelphia, in the wardens of the ſaid city, and to direct the immediate ſale of the old goal, and workhouſe of the county of Philadelphia, and to appropriate the ſaid perſonal eſtate, and part of the monies to ariſe from the ſale of the ſaid goal and work-houſe, to the building of two court houſes, one for the ſaid city, the other for the ſaid county, on the ſtate houſe lot in the ſaid city; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

No. 43. *An act for the relief of divers officers of the ſtate navy.*

No. 44. *An act for eſtabliſhing the office of a regiſter of all German paſſengers who ſhall arrive at the port of Philadelphia, and of all indentures by which any of them ſhall be bound ſervants for their freight, and of the aſſignments of ſuch ſervants in the city of Philadelphia.*

Which laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned till *Tueſday* the 23d day of *Auguſt* next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

SAMUEL BRYAN, *Clerk of Gen. Aſſembly.*

APPENDIX.

Proceedings of the TREATIES held at Forts *Stanwix* and *M'Intoſh*, between the Commiſſioners of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, and the Deputies of the *Six Nations*, the *Wyandott* and *Delaware Indians* claiming the unpurchaſed Territory within the acknowledged Limits of the ſaid Commonwealth.

Fort Stanwix, October 4, 1784.

THE Commiſſioners of *Indian* affairs from the State of *Pennſylvania*, purſuant to their letter of the third inſtant, met in conference with the Commiſſioners on part of the Continent.

PRESENT.

The hon. *Oliver Wolcott*, *Richard Butler*, and *Arthur Lee*, eſqs.	Commiſſioners on part of the *United States*.
The hon. *Samuel J. Atlee*, *William M'Clay*, and *Francis Johnſton*, eſqs.	Commiſſioners on part of the State of *Pennſylvania*.

It was requeſted by the State Commiſſioners, that the Commiſſioners for the United States ſhould introduce and announce them in their official character to the *Indians*, and inform them, that they, by conſent of Congreſs, had ſome buſineſs of importance to tranſact with them, relating to the affairs of ſaid State, to be brought forward at a proper period;

Which requiſition, after being diſcuſſed, was unanimouſly agreed to.

Fort Stanwix, October 17, 1784.

At the requeſt of the Commiſſioners from the *United States*, the Commiſſioners from the State of *Pennſylvania* met them this day in conference on the ſame ſubject as above. Preſent as before.

Whereupon it was agreed, That upon the cloſe of the council to be held this day with the *Indians* in the Council-Houſe of Fort *Stanwix*, the commiſſioners on part of ſaid State ſhould be introduced and announced in due form to the *Indian* chiefs or ſachems in full council.

The ſame day in council held between the Commiſſioners on part of the *United States*, and the repreſentatives of the Six *Indian* nations; preſent alſo the Commiſſioners for the State of *Pennſylvania*.

General *Wolcott* aroſe and addreſſed the *Indians* as follows, *viz.*

Sachems and *Warriors*,

We now, announce to you Col. *Atlee*, Mr. *M'Clay* and Col. *Johnſton*, three honorable gentlemen from the State of *Pennſylvania*, who have come by the conſent of Congreſs, as commiſſioners, to tranſact ſome affairs with you, on the part of that ſtate, after the concluſion of the preſent treaty, ſhould it be concluded in a manner ſatisfactory to the United States.

After which Col. *Atlee* in behalf of the *Indian* commiſſioners for the State of *Pennſylvania,* delivered the following ſpeech, *viz.*

Sachems and Warriors,

You have been now told by the honorable Commiſſioners from Congreſs, that we attend as commiſſioners from your old friends of *Pennſylvania,* to tranſact buſineſs with you on the part of that ſtate. At a proper ſeaſon we will produce to you our commiſſion, and lay before you the buſineſs committed to our charge, and we doubt not but you will take it under immediate conſideration, and return a favourable anſwer.

[*Four Strings.*

In Conference, *Fort Stanwix, October* 22, 1784.

Preſent,

The hon. *Samuel J. Atlee,*
Francis Johnſton, and
William M'Clay, eſqs.
} Commiſſioners from the State of *Pennſylva.*
Griffith Evans, SECRETARY.
The Rev. *Samuel Kirkland,*
And Mr. *James Dean,*
} INTERPRETERS.
And, The Deputies of the Six *Indian* Nations.

The Commiſſioners, through Colonel *Atlee,* opened their buſineſs by addreſſing them as follows, *viz.*

Brothers of the Six Nations,

It is probable that the buſineſs between you and the Continental Commiſſioners will be ſettled this day in Council; previous to which, we are deſirous of meeting you this morning with a view of laying before you the particular objects of our miſſion, and which we have attended here ſo long to negociate with you on the part of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.* It is not our wiſh to ſettle any matters finally until the concluſion of the Continental Treaty, the deſign of our preſent interview is to prepare your minds for the introduction of our buſineſs at a proper ſeaſon, to diſcuſs with freedom and ſeriouſly deliberate upon the ſubjects neceſſary to be taken into conſideration, that we may fully and perfectly underſtand each other.

We now inform you that we are commiſſioned and ſent from your old friends of *Pennſylvania,* to purchaſe from you, according to ancient cuſtom, the unpurchaſed lands within the acknowledged limits of the ſaid ſtate. This has been the invariable uſage of our forefathers, and we, deſirous of purſuing their good example, wiſh that our young men who have become very numerous, and require more lands, ſhould ſettle and improve the ſame in quietneſs and peace; for this deſirable purpoſe we have brought with us a valuable cargo of goods, ſuited to your various wants and neceſſities, as a compenſation for your right to theſe lands. But theſe lands being more remote and conſequently leſs valuable than thoſe our fathers have heretofore purchaſed, you ought not, therefore, to expect ſo great a conſideration for them.

[The Commiſſioners then produced a map of the State, pointing out to them the unpurchaſed land now intended to be purchaſed.]

We here produce to you all the deeds of purchaſe made by our forefathers from their firſt coming into this country, which if you require ſhall be read and explained to you for your information and ſatisfaction, by which you will learn the extreme regard the people of *Pennſylvania* have ever ſhewn the Six Confederated Nations.

To which capt *O'Bale,* a chief of the *Seneca* Nation, replied in behalf of the Six Nations.

Brothers of Pennſylvania,

We now call your attention to our reply to what you have ſaid; we greatly rejoice in meeting our brothers of *Pennſylvania* once more in peace and friendſhip, your language has been friendly and agreeable to us, as that of your forefathers always was; you have informed us of the buſineſs you are commiſſioned from the State of *Pennſylvania* to tranſact with us, we have ſeen the deeds given by our fathers to yours and underſtand you well. We will take up the matter, keep it in mind, and deliberate upon it 'till the cloſe of the continental buſineſs.

The Commiſſioners then thanked them, and proceeded as follows, *viz.*

We come in the moſt peaceable and friendly manner and do not wiſh to irritate your minds with a recapitulation of former grievances, but to make the road between us ſmooth and even. We are to inform you that one of our brothers preſent (pointing to Mr. *M'Clay)* is appointed by the government of *Pennſylvania* to run the boundary line between you and us, next ſpring, when we will expect ſome of you to accompany him, in order to prevent all diſputes in future touching the ſame.

Having it in charge from the ſtate, we muſt not omit to be informed by you the *Indian* name of *Burnet*'s *Hills*, mentioned in our deed of 1768. And alſo which of the two ſtreams *Lycoming* or *Pine Creek* (both of which empty into the Weſt Branch of *Suſquehanna*) is known among you by the name of *Tiadaghton.* [To which they anſwered:] As to *Burnet*'s *Hills* they called them the *Long Mountains* and knew them by no other name; and that *Tiadaghton* was *Pine Creek* or the uppermoſt and largeſt of the two, but of this they would conſider and return a more poſitive anſwer.

The conference was then cloſed.

October 23, 1784, In CONFERENCE.
PRESENT, as before.

The Commiſſioners again produced the map of the ſtate, pointing out the purchaſed and unpurchaſed lands within the ſame, particularly deſcribing and explaining to them the forty ſecond degree or line of latitude (being the northern boundary of the ſtate) and alſo mentioned the place where it was ſuppoſed it would paſs. All which Capt. *Aaron Hill*, a *Mohock* chief, who ſpoke *Engliſh* very well, perfectly underſtood and explained in a ſatisfactory manner to the other chiefs.

Captain *O'Bale* then ſpoke and informed the Commiſſioners, "That it is "not the wiſh of the Six Nations at preſent to part with ſo much of their "hunting grounds," and pointed out a line on the map which he hoped would be agreeable to them.

This being far ſhort of the boundary of the ſtate was therefore deemed by the Commiſſioners totally inadmiſſible.

The Commiſſioners then ſpoke to them as follows:

Brothers,

Though the lands we are about to purchaſe are already ceded by the line of ceſſion deſcribed in the Articles of Peace between the *United States* and *Great Britain,* yet we mean not to take any advantage of you, but are deſirous of paying you a valuable conſideration for them, after the manner of our anceſtors, your brothers of *Pennſylvania.* This conſideration we have with us and conſiſts of an excellent aſſortment of goods, amounting in value to four thouſand dollars, and which you will find to be of the firſt quality, which will certainly convince you that many advantages will flow to you from a trade and coreſpondence with your brothers of *Pennſylvania.*

We now deſire you would make up your minds on theſe important matters that our buſineſs may be in ſuch forwardneſs on the concluſion of the Continental Treaty, as to be ready to receive a public and final ſanction, on the completion of which we will deliver you a belt.

We wiſh once more to impreſs our brothers with an idea that our intention is to purſue the ſame method of obtaining lands from you that our forefathers did, with whoſe conduct we conceive you muſt be perfectly ſatisfied, as they never wronged you, but have fulfilled all their engagements and paid you faithfully, for all the lands they have from time to time purchaſed of you.

Leaſt any doubts ſhould ariſe reſpecting the quality of the goods, if ſuch chiefs as are deſirous of ſeeing them will attend at the ſtores, the ſeveral packages ſhall be opened and ſhewn to them.

It has been intimated by ſome of you that you are deſirous of having a privilege of hunting on theſe lands, to this we have no objection, more eſpecially as the continental commiſſioners have granted you the ſame indulgence,—this in our opinions will tend to our mutual advantage.

Brothers,

Tomorrow being *Sunday*, on which we can tranſact no public buſineſs, being a great way from our reſpective families, and winter approaching faſt upon us, we muſt therefore again requeſt you to come to a concluſion on theſe matters, and let us know your minds as ſoon as poſſible."

The Commiſſioners then withdrew, the chiefs ſtill remaining in conſultation. After ſome time the *Indians* requeſted their attendance, they returned accordingly, when the chiefs preſent ſpoke by captain *O'Bale*, as follows:

"*Brothers of Pennſylvania,*

"You have communicated to us your buſineſs; you have pointed out the ands you are directed to purchaſe of us, and we underſtand you, you have ikewiſe ſhewn your authority, of which we are ſatisfied. And as we wiſh to keep the way between us ſmooth and even, and to brighten the chain of friendſhip, and make it laſting, we have agreed that the lands you have deſcribed be granted to you in the ſame manner as you have requeſted. But as ands afford a laſting and riſing profit, and as the *Pennſylvanians* have always been generous, we hope you will give us ſomething next year as a farther conſideration."

The Commiſſioners after conſulting together replied,

"We thank you for meeting us here, and are glad to find you ſo well diſpoſed to peace and friendſhip. We expected we had brought you ſufficient preſents for the lands we are commiſſioned to purchaſe, but have nevertheleſs agreed to give you goods to the amount of one thouſand dollars more, which we will deliver to you or to any perſons you may appoint to receive them at *Tioga*, the firſt of next *October*. This cargo of goods ſhall be aſſorted in the beſt manner to ſerve you, for the performance of which we will obligate ourſelves if you think it neceſſary."

Then the chiefs by captain *O'Bale*, ſpoke as follows, *viz.*

"We moſt chearfully agree to this; we will take an obligation for the purpoſe of ſecuring to us the privilege of hunting on the lands, and alſo for delivery of the goods, which will perfectly ſatisfy us. We wiſh that our brothers of *Pennſylvania* would ſend us a faithful gun and blackſmith to reſide at or near *Tioga*, who would be of great advantage to us when we come down in hunting parties; and alſo that the government of *Pennſylvania* would eſtabliſh trading houſes at the ſame place, that we may be conveniently and honeſtly ſupplied with ſuch articles as we ſhall ſtand in need of."

The Commiſſioners anſwered, “ We will make true report of theſe requeſts to the State, and make no doubt they will be complied with.”

Two of the principal chiefs, captain *Aaron Hill* of the *Mohawks*, and captain *O'Bale* of the *Seneca*'s, deſirous of having each a rifle of the manufacture of *Pennſylvania*, being informed they were very good, requeſted the Commiſſioners to give them two of the beſt quality, to be delivered to them on the firſt day of *April* next, at the new ſtore at *Newtown*, near *Tioga*; which the Commiſſioners complied with, and gave their obligation for that purpoſe.

The conference ended.

The ſame day. In COUNCIL. Preſent.

The hon. *Oliver Wolcott*,
Richard Butler, and } Commiſſioners on part of the *United States*.
Arthur Lee, eſqs.

The hon. *Samuel J. Atlee*,
William M'Clay, and } Commiſſioners on part of the State of *Pennſylvania*.
Francis Johnſton, eſqs.

The Rev. *Samuel Kirkland*,
And Mr. *James Dean*, } INTERPRETERS.

And a full repreſentation of the Six *Indian* Nations.

At the cloſe of the continental buſineſs, General *Wolcott* addreſſed the *Indians* as follows:

“ *Sachems and Warriors*,

“ We informed you ſome time paſt, that theſe gentlemen commiſſioner from the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, had ſome public buſineſs to tranſact with yo on the part of the ſaid State. If they are ready to bring it forward, now will be a proper time.”

Upon which Colonel *Atlee*, in behalf of the *Pennſylvania* Commiſſioners delivered the following ſpeech, prepared for the purpoſe:

“ *Brothers of the Six Nations*,

“ After a long ſeparation of nine years, during which period, the grea Congreſs have been at war with, and conquered their enemies from the othe ſide of the great water. We the Commiſſioners from your old friends o *Pennſylvania*, with the conſent of the *United States* in Congreſs aſſembled are well pleaſed to meet you this day; and from our hearts rejoice with you that peace and friendſhip are once more eſtabliſhed by theſe honourable gentlemen the commiſſioners of Congreſs. [*Six Strings*.

“ *Brothers*,

“ Liſten with great attention to what we are going to ſay to you. W come in the name and from the government of *Pennſylvania*, of which yo have already been informed; our commiſſion we here produce, which w will read to you publicly.”

The Commiſſion was read.

“ *Brothers*,

“ From the firſt coming of our fathers to this country, about one hundred years ago, to the time of the laſt treaty and purchaſe in 1768 at th place, which many of you now preſent muſt well remember, your brothe of *Pennſylvania* as they wanted lands for their young men to ſettle on, applied for and purchaſed from the natives from time to time ſuch quantiti within the bounds of their charter as they judged ſufficient.

“ Th

" The ſeveral deeds for the different purchaſes we here produce, as authentic proofs of the juſtice of our conduct towards our brethren the Six Nations, and others claiming and poſſeſſing the country—teſtimonies which cannot lie."

Produced the deeds.

" This laſt deed, brothers, with the map annexed, are deſcriptive of the purchaſe made ſixteen years ago at this place; one of the boundary lines calls for a creek by the name of *Tyadoghton*, we wiſh our brothers the Six Nations to explain to us clearly which you call the *Tyadoghton*,as there are two creeks iſſuing from the *Burnet*'s *Hills*, *Pine* and *Lycoming*.

" *Brothers*,

" You will obſerve by our commiſſion juſt now read to you, that our preſent buſineſs is to ſatisfy you, as was our ancient cuſtom, for the lands lying within the acknowledged limits of *Pennſylvania*, for which you have not heretofore received any compenſation.

" This compenſation has been mutually agreed to by you and us in conference this morning. It was alſo agreed, that in addition to the goods we have now on this ground for your uſe, we ſhould give our obligation for the amount of one thouſand dollars in ſuch goods as will beſt ſuit yourſelves to be delivered at or near *Tioga*, on the *Suſquehannah*, on the firſt day of *October* next. It now remains for us mutually to carry into execution our reſpective agreements, and that, in the moſt ſolemn and public manner, as it is our fixed determination that they ſhall be inviolate for ever.

" *Brothers*,

" Before we conclude, we deſire you to appoint ſome ſuitable perſons among yourſelves to receive and diſtribute the goods with impartiality and juſtice; and that you will alſo nominate a fit perſon to attend running the boundary between you and us, when due notice ſhall be given thereof."

[*A Large Belt*.

To which they replied by Captain *Aaron Hill*,

" *Brothers from Pennſylvania*,

" We have heard what you have ſaid, and are well pleaſed with the ſame. The conſideration we have fully agreed on, which we are to receive for the lands, and agreeable to your requeſt have appointed captain *Aaron Hill*, *Onequiandahonjo*, and *Honeghariko* of the *Mohawk* tribe; *Kayenthogkke*, *Thaghneghtanhare*, and *Teyagonendageghte*, of the *Seneca*; *Ohendarighton* and *Thoneeyode*, of the *Cayuga*; *Sagoyahalongo* and *Otoghſelonegh*, *Ojeſtalale*, *Oneyanha*, *Gaghſaweda* and *Odaghſeghte* of the *Oneida*; and *Oneſaghweughte* and *Thalondawagon* of the *Tuſcarora*, as ſuitable perſons to receive the goods from you.

" With regard to the creek called *Tyadoghton*, mentioned in your deed of 1768, we have already anſwered you, and again repeat it, it is the ſame you call *Pine Creek*, being the largeſt emptying into the weſt branch of the *Suſquehannah*.

" Agreeable to your wiſh we have appointed *Taghneghtanhare* to attend your ſurveyor in running the line between you and us."

We do certify that the foregoing ſpeech was this day made by captain *Aaron Hill*, on behalf of the Six Nations to the *Pennſylvania* commiſſioners.

Witneſs our hands this twenty-third day of *October*, *anno Domini* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four.

(Signed) SAMUEL KIRKLAND, *Miſſionary*.
JAMES DEAN, *Interpreter*.

The Deed * was then produced, and publicly read, when the chiefs of the reſpective nations ſealed and delivered the ſame, ſaying, "We deliver "this as our grant and deed, and give up the land therein mentioned, ac"cording to the deſcription thereof to their brothers the *Pennſylvanians*, for "their uſe for ever." After the ſame being witneſſed, the commiſſioners ſealed and delivered the two obligations mentioned above, one for the delivery of the goods, and the other for ſecuring to them the privilege of hunting on the lands now purchaſed.

The council aroſe.

The foregoing is a true ſtate of the proceedings of the *Indian* treaty at Fort *Stanwix*.

GRIFFITH EVANS, *Secretary*.

October 23, 1784.

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* The ſix *Indian* Nations, to the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, DEED for Lands purchaſed, *October* 23, 1784.

TO ALL PEOPLE to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, WE, *Anigwendahonji* and *Teweghtogon*, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Mohocks*. *Kanonghgwenya*, *Alyatonenghtha*, and *Tatahonghteayon*, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Oneidas*. *Ohendarighton* and *Keatarondyon*, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Onondagoes*. *Oraghgwanentagon*, Sachem or Chief of the *Indian* nation called the *Cayogaes*. *Tayagoneatageghte*, *Tehonwaeaghriyagi*, *Thaghnaghtanhari*, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Senecas*. And *Ononghſawanghti*, and *Tharondawagon*, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Tuſcaroras*, being met together in a general council of the Six Nations convened at fort *Stanwix*, by the Honorable *Oliver Wolcott*, *Richard Butler* and *Arthur Lee*, eſquires, commiſſioners of *Indian* affairs, duly appointed by the honorable the Congreſs of the *United States*, for the northern and middle diſtricts, SEND GREETING. KNOW YE that WE the ſaid Sachems or Chiefs, for and in conſideration of the ſum of five thouſand dollars, to us in hand paid, before enſealing and delivery of theſe preſents, by the honorable *Samuel John Atlee*, eſquire, and *William M'Clay*, and *Francis Johnſon*, eſquires, commiſſioners for and in behalf of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, the receipt whereof WE do hereby acknowledge. HAVE granted bargained, ſold, releaſed and confirmed, and by theſe preſents, for us and the ſaid Six Nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, all whom we repreſent, and by whom we are thereunto authoriſed and impowered, DO grant, bargain, ſell, releaſe, and confirm unto the ſaid Commonwealth, all that part of the ſaid Commonwealth not yet purchaſed of the *Indians* within the acknowledged limits of the ſame, BEGINNING on the ſouth ſide of the river *Ohio*, where the weſtern boundary of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* croſſes the ſaid river, near *Shingo*'s old Town, at the mouth of *Beaver* creek, and thence by a due north line to the end of the forty-ſecond and beginning of the forty-third degrees of north latitude, thence by a due eaſt line ſeparating the forty-ſecond and forty-third degrees of north latitude, to the eaſt ſide of the eaſt branch of the river *Suſquehanna*, thence by the bounds of the late purchaſe made at Fort *Stanwix*, the fifth day of *November*, *anno Domini* one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty eight, as follows, "Down the ſaid eaſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, on the eaſt ſide thereof, till it comes oppoſite to the mouth of a creek called by the *Indians*, *Awandac*, and acroſs the river, and up the ſaid creek on the ſouth ſide thereof, and along the range of hills, called *Burnet*'s *Hills* by the *Engliſh*, and by the *Indians* on the north ſide of them to the head of a creek which runs into the weſt branch of *Suſquehannah*, which creek is by the *Indians* called *Tyadaghton*, but by the *Pennſylvanians Pine Creek*, and down the ſaid creek on the ſouth ſide thereof, to the ſaid weſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, then croſſing the ſaid river, and running up the ſame on the ſouth ſide thereof, the ſeveral courſes thereof, to the fork of the ſame river, which lies neareſt to a place on the river *Ohio* called *Kittaning*, and from the fork by a ſtraight line to *Kittaning* aforeſaid, and then down the ſaid river *Ohio* by the ſeveral courſes thereof, to where the weſtern bounds of the ſaid ſtate of *Pennſylvania* croſſes the ſame river," at the place of BEGINNING. Together with all lakes, rivers, creeks, rivulets, ſprings, waters, ſoils, lands, fields, woods, underwoods, mountains, hills, valleys, ſavannahs, fens, ſwamps, iſles, inlets, mines, minerals, quarries, rights, liberties, privileges, advantages, hereditaments, and appurtenances whatſoever, to the ſaid tract of land and country belonging or in any wiſe appertaining, and all the right, title, intereſt, claim and demand whatſoever, of us the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, and of the ſaid Six Nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, and every of them, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the ſaid tract of land and country, with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, unto the ſaid commonwealth to the only proper uſe and behoof of the ſaid commonwealth, FOR EVER, ſo that neither WE, the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, nor any of us, nor the ſaid Six Nations, nor their confederates and dependent tribes, nor any of them, nor any of our or their heirs, children, or deſcendents, ſhall claim, demand, or challenge, any right, title, intereſt, or property, of, in, or to the ſaid tract of land and country, but from the ſame ſhall be forever barred and excluded; and the ſame tract of land and country, ſhall forever hereafter be peaceably and quietly poſſeſſed by the ſaid commonwealth, and all perſons, who ſhall ſettle thereon, under the authority of the ſame, without the let hindrance, moleſtation, interruption, or denial of us the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, or the ſaid Six Nations, or their confederates, and dependent tribes, or any of them, or of our or their heirs, children, or deſcendents. IN WITNESS whereof, We the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, for ourſelves and the reſt of the Six Nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, have hereunto ſet our hands and ſeals. Dated at Fort *Stanwix* aforeſaid, this twenty third day of *October*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty four.

Oraghgwanentagon, his † mark, *L.S.*
Tayagoneatageghti, his † mark, *L. S.*
Tehonweeaghreyagi, his † mark, *L.S.*
Thaghnaghtanhari, his † mark, *L.S.*
Ononghſawanghti, his † mark, *L.S.*
Tharondawagon, his † mark, *L. S.*
Anigwendahonji, his † mark, *L. S.*
Teweghnitogon, his † mark, *L. S.*
Kanonghgwenya, his † mark, *L. S.*
Atyonenghtha, his † mark, *L. S.*
Tatahonghteayon, his † mark, *L. S.*
Ohendarighton, his † mark, *L. S.*
Keatarondyon, his † mark, *L. S.*

Sealed and delivered in the preſence of us,

Oliver Wolcott,
Arthur Lee,
Richard Butler, } United States Commiſſioners.
Aaron Hill,
Samuel Kirkland, Miſſionary.

James Dean, Interpreter,
Alexander Campbell, Sec. Com. U. S.
Samuel Montgomery, Ag. & St. K. C.C.
G. Evans, Sec. Pennſ. Ind. Commiſ.

State of Pennſylvania, ſſ.

Be it remembered, That on the ſeventeenth day of *February*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty five, and in the ninth year of the independence of the *United States* of *America*, came the honourable *Arthur Lee*, eſquire, LL. D. one of the commiſſioners of the *United States* of *America* for holding treaties with the *Indian* nations, and *Griffith Evans*, eſquire, ſecretary to the commiſſioners of the ſaid State of *Pennſylvania*, for treating and purchaſing, *&c.* of ſaid *Indians*, before the honourable *Thomas M'Kean*, eſq. doctor of laws, chief juſtice of the ſupreme court of the ſaid ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and made oath on the holy Evangeliſts of Almighty God, that they were preſent and did ſee the thirteen *Indian* ſachems or chiefs, in the above deed named as grantors, make the ſignatures or marks to their reſpective names adjoining, and ſeal and deliver the above conveyance, as and for their act and deed; that they ſeverally ſubſcribed their names as witneſſes thereof, and alſo ſeen the other ſeven witneſſes ſubſcribe their names as witneſſes to the ſame, and that the names *Arthur Lee* and *G. Evans* above ſubſcribed, are of their reſpective hand-writing. In Teſtimony whereof I have hereunto put my hand and ſeal the day and year above ſaid.

THOs. M'KEAN. *L. S.*

Fort M'Intoſh, January 1785.

In COUNCIL, *January* 9, 1785.

PRESENT.

The hon. *George Rogers Clarke*,
Richard Butler, and
Arthur Lee, eſqs. } Commiſſioners on part of the *United States.*

The hon. *Samuel J. Atlee*, and
Francis Johnſton, eſqs. } Commiſſioners on part of the State of *Pennſylvania.*

Griffith Evans, Secretary.
John Montour, Interpreter.

And the chiefs, *&c.* of the *Wyandott*, *Delaware*, *Chippawa*, and *Ottawa Indian* nations.

The commiſſioners on part of the *United States*, in conſequence of the State commiſſioners letter of yeſterday, addreſſed the *Indians*, as follows,

" *Sachems and Warriors*,

" Theſe gentlemen, Colonel *Atlee*, and Colonel *Johnſton*, are commiſſioners from the State of *Pennſylvania*, who have attended here by conſent of Congreſs to tranſact ſome public buſineſs with you on the part of ſaid State, which they will be ready to introduce after the preſent treaty is concluded."

Note. It appearing to the Commiſſioners that the *Wyandott* and *Delaware* nations were the only claimants of the unpurchas'd lands in *Pennſylvania*, amongſt the weſtern *Indians*, conſequently the preſent negociations on part of the ſtate are confined to them.

Ir

In CONFERENCE, *January* 14, 1785.

PRESENT.

The honourable *Samuel J. Atlee*, and *Francis Johnſton*, eſqs. } Commiſſioners.
Griffith Evans, Secretary.
John Montour, and *Joſeph Nicholſon*, } Interpreters.
And the chiefs of the *Wyandott* and *Delaware Indian* nations.

The Commiſſioners addreſſed them in the following words by Colonel *Atlee*:

" *Brothers*,

" We have been long ſeparated by the wars that have ſubſiſted between us, which are now terminated and over, we are very glad to meet you here, and have great occaſion to rejoice that we have an opportunity of brightening the chain of friendſhip between us, and we hope ſoon to take you by the hand in a happy and laſting peace,—when eſtabliſhed by the commiſſioners from Congreſs.

" We have called you together this morning with a view of explaining to you the nature of the buſineſs we have to negociate with you.

" *Brothers*,

" We are commiſſioned and ſent from your old friends of *Pennſylvania*; to purchaſe of the natives all the unpurchaſed lands within the territory of *Pennſylvania*, for this purpoſe we met your brothers and uncles the Six Nations laſt *October*, at Fort *Stanwix*, and according to our antient cuſtom purchaſed the ſaid lands of them, and this is the deed they gave us to confirm the ſame."

Then produced the deed executed by the Six Nations laſt *October*, and alſo a map of the country explaining the ſame to them.

" Your brothers and uncles ſuggeſted to us, that they had a right to act for you alſo, in diſpoſing of this land; but hearing you claimed and knowing that you hunted on part of this ground, we conceived we had better meet you ourſelves on the ſubject, that we might alſo ſee each other, and remove all obſtructions out of the way between us. We have therefore reſerved a proportion of the preſents, and have brought them with us to give you as a compenſation for your right to this country.

" The amount of what we have reſerved is two thouſand dollars, conſiſting of an excellent aſſortment of goods of the firſt quality, calculated in the beſt manner to ſupply your wants, which is a greater proportion than what we have given to your uncles the Six Nations, and is certainly a very generous conſideration.

" You are now fully informed of our buſineſs with you, we earneſtly deſire that you may think ſeriouſly of it, for what we are about to do muſt be as permanent as the ſun. We wiſh you to go and conſult together upon our words, and let us know your minds as ſoon as convenient.

" *Brothers*,

" We inform you that it is not our wiſh to ſettle our buſineſs finally with you, previous to the concluſion of the continental treaty, but only that we may fully underſtand each other, and have our minds prepared, that when the commiſſioners on the part of the *United States* ſhall have compleated their buſineſs, we may have ours ready to bring on."

To which they replied by Captain *Pipe* of the *Delawares*, viz.

" *Brothers*,

" We rejoice from our hearts to ſee our brothers from *Pennſylvania*, and are very glad that we are likely once more to live in peace and friendſhip with you. Your ſpeech is very pleaſing to us. You have told us the buſineſs you have met us here upon, and we think we fully underſtand you. We will council together and let you know our minds ſome time ſoon.

" *Brothers*,

" We are very glad to hear of your having met with our uncles the Six Nations at Fort *Stanwix*, and that they have given up their lands to you agreeable to the deed you juſt now ſhewed us."

In CONFERENCE. Preſent as before.

Captain *Pipe* ſpoke in behalf of the *Wyandott* and *Delaware* nations as follows:

" *Brothers of Pennſylvania*,

" We met laſt night, and counſelled together upon the ſpeech you delivered to us yeſterday. We thank you for ſaving ſome of your preſents for us, for in this brothers you were very right, for our fathers always told us, and we tell our children, that from *Vinango* to *Little Beaver* Creek, and out to the Lake, was our hunting ground. But we have now all agreed to let our brothers the *Pennſylvanians* have it, excepting a few tracts which we would wiſh to reſerve, that we might make a preſent of a piece of ground to you and your young man for meeting us here at this inclement ſeaſon; and that we may have it in our power to fulfil our promiſes to ſome of our friends, which we made long ago."

To which the Commiſſioners replied,

" *Brothers*,

" We thank you for your kind offer, but we cannot conſiſtent with our inſtructions from the ſtate, agree to any reſervations; our purchaſe muſt be for our whole claim; at the ſame time, we have no doubt but that if any individuals have juſt claims to any part of theſe lands, that upon application being made to the government of *Pennſylvania*, they will be properly attended to."

The chiefs after conſulting together for ſome time anſwered,

" Well, then, we have agreed that this country ſhall be yours, and that our brothers of Pennſylvania ſhall have it for ever."

The Commiſſioners then thanked them, and ſaid,

" We ſhall expect a deed from you for theſe lands, and we requeſt you will nominate the perſons who are to ſign it, that it may be ready for execution at the proper ſeaſon, when we will meet you in public council; and alſo that you would appoint fit perſons to receive the goods from us, when we ſhall be ready to deliver them out."

They replied that *Montour* the interpreter ſhould wait on the Commiſſioners the next day, and give them the names of thoſe perſons.

Conference ended.

January 16, 1785.

Montour agreeable to the appointment of yeſterday attended the Commiſſioners, and returned the names of the following perſons who were to ſign the deed, viz. *Jeungquat*, or the Half King, *Tauwarah*, or the Sweat Houſe, and *Abraham Kuhn*, of the *Wyandotts*; and *Keeſkanohen*, or the Pipe, *Peechemelind*, or the Preſent, *Wialindioghin*, or the Council Door, *Hyngapuſhes*, or the Big Cat. *Tautabaughſey*, or the Twiſting Vine, and *Whingohatong*, or the Volunteer, of the *Delawares*. And *Abraham Kuhn*, *Wealindeoghin*, and *Wingenum*, to receive the goods.

In

In COUNCIL, *January* 21, 1785.

PRESENT.

he hon. *George Rogers Clarke*, *Richard Butler*, and *Arthur Lee*, eſqs. Commiſſioners on part of the *United States*.

Alexander Campbell, Secretary.

he hon. *Samuel J. Atlee*, and *Francis Johnſton*, eſqs. Commiſſioners on part of the State of *Pennſylvania*.

Griffith Evans, Secretary.

Joſeph Nicholſon, and *John Montour*, Interpreters.

And the deputies of the *Wyandott*, *Delaware*, *Chippawa*, and *Ottawa* and *uncy Indian* nations.

Upon the completion of the Continental treaty, the *Pennſylvania* Commiſ- ners, delivered the following ſpeech, by Colonel *Atlee*:

" *Brothers of the Wyandott and Delaware Nations*,

" Liſten with attention to what your brothers of *Pennſylvania* are going to ſ. You have been informed by the Continental Commiſſioners at their firſt eeting, that we come from the government of *Pennſylvania*, as Commiſſi- ers duly authoriſed to tranſact public buſineſs with you, as will appear our commiſſion under the ſeal of the ſtate, which we will read to you."

Read the commiſſion.

" Purſuant to this commiſſion, we met your brothers and uncles the Six ations at Fort *Stanwix*, in *October* laſt, and after a ſolemn peace was eſta- liſhed with them by the honourable Commiſſioners of the *United States*, we, conformity to ancient cuſtom, purchaſed their right to all the lands within e acknowledged limits of *Pennſylvania*, not already purchaſed of them, for hich we gave a valuable conſideration in goods of the firſt quality.

" That this may be known to all, we here produce their deed executed to in the moſt public manner, and witneſſed by the honourable Commiſſi- ners of Congreſs, Captain *Aaron Hill*, a chief of the *Mohawk* tribe, and veral others.

" Now, *Brothers*,

" As you have been called together to this place, by the honorable the ommiſſioners of the *United States*, we, by conſent of Congreſs, are happy meet you, and rejoice that peace and friendſhip are once more eſtabliſhed nongſt us. In teſtimony of our ſincerity we preſent you with theſe ſtrings.

[*Five Strings*.

" *Brothers*,

" Knowing that for ſome time paſt you have hunted upon and claimed a ortion of the lands within *Pennſylvania*, and being actuated by the ſtrict rinciples of peace and juſtice towards you in the ſame degree that you have en we manifeſted to your brothers and uncles the Six Nations, and to pre- ent future trouble between your people and ours, we have determined ac- ording to the known uſage of *Pennſylvania*, to give you the conſideration greed upon between us, for this purpoſe we have brought with us a quanti- y of the beſt goods ſuch as will miniſter to your relief and comfort. Theſe oods ſhall be delivered out to proper perſons appointed by each nation to re- eive them; and that no miſunderſtanding may ariſe in future, a map of the and we wiſh to have confirmed to the commonwealth, ſhall be affixed to the leed to be executed by you, that your children and ours, may hereafter have ecourſe to the ſame."

[*A Belt*.

To which they by the *Half King*, chief of the *Wyandotts*, replied,

“ *Brothers of Pennſylvania*,

“ Give attention to what we ſhall ſay to you. Your words have pleaſed us very much, and we all thank you for your kindneſs towards us; ou grandfathers have always ſaid that your conduct towards them was juſt th ſame you diſcover to us now. *Pennſylvania* has never deceived nor wronged us out of any thing, and we all thank you not only from our lips but alſ from our hearts for your honeſty.”

[*Three Strings.*

The Commiſſioners then produced the Deed * that was prepared, and informed them it was ready for them to execute, when the perſons who ha been appointed for the purpoſe, walked forward, and ſealed and delivered th ſame, in the moſt ſolemn manner, in the preſence of many witneſſes, as thei quit claim and deed for the land therein deſcribed, for the uſe of *Pennſylvania* for ever.

The council fire was raked up.

The foregoing is a true ſtate of the proceedings of the *Indian* treaty held a Fort *M'Intoſh*.

GRIFFITH EVANS, *Secretary.*

January 23, 1785.

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* The *Wyandott* and *Delaware Indian* Nations, to the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, DEED for Lands purchaſed at Fort *M'Intoſh*, *January* 21, 1785.

TO ALL PEOPLE to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, WE, *Deungquat*, or the Half King, *Tauwarah*, or the Sweat Houſe, and *Abraham Kuhn* Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Wyandotts*; and *Keeſkanohon* or the Pipe, *Peechemelind*, or the Preſent, of the *Wolf* tribe, *Wialindeoghin*, or the Council Door, *Hyngapuſhes*, or the Big Cat, of the *Turkey* tribe, and *Tautabaughſey*, or the Twiſting Vine, and *Whingohatong*, or the Volunteer, of the *Turtle* tribe, Sachems or Chiefs of the *Indian* nation called the *Delawares*, being met together in a general council of the Weſtern *Indians*, convened at Fort *M'Intoſh*, by the Honorable *George Rogers Clark*, *Richard Butler* and *Arthur Lee*, eſquires, commiſſioners of *Indian* affairs, duly appointed by the honorable the Congreſs of the *United States*, for the northern and middle diſtricts, SEND GREETING. KNOW YE that WE the ſaid Sachems or Chiefs, for and in conſideration of the ſum of two thouſand dollars, to us in hand paid, before the enſealing and delivery of theſe preſents, by the honorable *Samuel John Atlee*, eſquire, and *Francis Johnſon*, eſquire, commiſſioners for and in behalf of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, the receipt whereof WE do hereby acknowledge. HAVE granted, bargained, ſold, releaſed and confirmed, and by theſe preſents, for us and the ſaid *Wyandott* and *Delaware* nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, all whom we repreſent, and by whom we are thereunto authoriſed and impowered, DO grant, bargain, ſell, releaſe, and confirm unto the ſaid Commonwealth, all that part of the ſaid Commonwealth not yet purchaſed of the *Indians* within the acknowledged limits of the ſame, BEGINNING on the ſouth ſide of the river *Ohio*, where the weſtern boundary of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* croſſes the ſaid river, and thence by a due north line to the end of the forty-ſecond and beginning of the forty-third degrees of north latitude, thence by a due eaſt line ſeparating the forty-ſecond and forty-third degrees of north latitude, to the eaſt ſide of the eaſt branch of the river *Suſquehannah*, thence by the bounds of the late purchaſe made at Fort *Stanwix*, the fifth day of *November*, *anno Domini* one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty eight, as follows, " Down the ſaid eaſt branch of *Suſquehannah*, on the eaſt ſide thereof, till it comes oppoſite to the mouth of a creek called by the *Indians*, *Awandac*, and acroſs the river, and up the ſaid creek on the ſouth ſide thereof, and along the range of hills, called *Burnet*'s *Hills* by the *Engliſh*, and by the *Indians*   on the north ſide of them to the head of a creek which runs into the weſt branch of *Suſquehannah*, which creek is by the *Indians* called *Tyadaghton*, but by the *Pennſylvanians Pine Creek*, and down the ſaid creek on the ſouth ſide thereof, to the ſaid weſt branch of *Suſquehannah*, then croſſing the ſaid river, and running up the ſame on the ſouth ſide thereof, the ſeveral courſes thereof, to the fork of the ſame river, which lies neareſt to a place on the river *Ohio* called *Kittaning*, and from the fork by a ſtraight line to *Kittaning* aforeſaid, and then down the ſaid river *Ohio* by the ſeveral courſes thereof, to where the weſtern bounds of the ſaid ſtate of *Pennſylvania* croſſes the ſame river," at the place of BEGINNING. Together with all lakes, rivers, creeks, rivulets, ſprings, waters, ſoils, lands, fields, woods, underwoods, mountains, hills, valleys, ſavannahs, fens, ſwamps, iſles, inlets, mines, minerals, quarries, rights, liberties, privileges, advantages, hereditaments, and appurtenances whatſoever, to the ſaid tract of land and country belonging or in any wiſe appertaining, and all the right, title, intereſt, claim and demand whatſoever, of us the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, and of the ſaid *Wyandott* and *Delaware* nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, and every of them, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the ſaid tract of land and country, with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, unto the ſaid commonwealth to the only proper uſe and behoof of the ſaid commonwealth, FOR EVER, ſo that neither WE, the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, nor any of us, nor the ſaid *Wyandott* nor *Delaware* nations, nor their confederates and dependent tribes, nor any of them, nor any of our or their heirs, children, or deſcendents, ſhall claim, demand, or challenge, any right, title, intereſt, or property, of, in, or to the ſaid tract of land and country, but from the ſame ſhall be forever barred and excluded; and the ſame tract of land and country, ſhall forever hereafter be peaceably and quietly poſſeſſed by the ſaid commonwealth, and all perſons, who ſhall ſettle thereon, under the authority of the ſame, without the let, hindrance, moleſtation, interruption, or denial of us the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, of the *Wyandott* or *Delaware* nations aforeſaid, or their confederates, and dependent tribes, or any of them, or of our or their heirs, children, or deſcendents. IN WITNESS whereof, We the ſaid ſachems or chiefs, for ourſelves and the reſt of the *Wyandott* and *Delaware* nations, and their confederates and dependent tribes, have hereunto ſet our hands and ſeals. Dated at Fort *M'Intoſh*, aforeſaid, this twenty firſt day of *January*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty five.

Wialindeoghin, or the Council Door, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Hyngapuſhes, or the Big Cat, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Tatabaughſey, or the Twiſting Vine, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Whingohatong, or the Volunteer, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Deungquat, or the Half King, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Tauwarah, or the Sweat Houſe, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Abraham Kuhn, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Keeſkanohen, or the Pipe, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*
Peechemelind, or the Preſent, ‡ his mark, *L. S.*

Sealed and delivered in preſence of
G. R. Clark,
Richard Butler, } Commiſſioners of the *United States.*
Arthur Lee,
Joſ. Harmer, Lieut. Col. Com.
Alexd. Lowrey,
John Boggs,
Wm. Butler,
Alex. Campbell, Sec. Com. *United States.*
W. Bradford,
Daniel Elliot,
John Montour, Interpreter,
G. Evans, Sec. Pennſ. Com.
Edw. Butler.

State of Pennſylvania, ſſ.

Be it remembered, That on the ſeventeenth day of *February*, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty five, and in the ninth year of the independence of the *United States* of *America*, came perſonally Doctor *Arthur Lee*, one of the Commiſſioners of the ſaid *United States* aforeſaid, for treating with the *Indian* nations, *&c.* and *Griffith Evans*, eſquire, Secretary to the Commiſſioners of the State of *Pennſylvania*, for treating and purchaſing, *&c.* with and from the ſaid *Indians*, before the hon. *Thomas M'Kean*, eſquire, doctor of laws, chief juſtice of the ſupreme court of the ſaid State of *Pennſylvania*, and ſeverally made oath on the holy Evangeliſts of Almighty God, that they were preſent, and ſeen the nine grantors in the above deed named, make the ſignatures or marks to the ſaid deed, and ſeal and deliver the ſame as their act and deed, voluntarily and freely, and that the ſaid deponents ſeverally ſubſcribed their names as witneſſes to the execution thereof, and that they alſo ſeen the other eleven witneſſes ſubſcribe their names above written reſpectively to the ſame deed, and that the names *Arthur Lee*, and *G. Evans*, thereto ſubſcribed, are of their ſeveral hands-writing. In Teſtimony whereof, I have hereunto put my hand and ſeal at *Philadelphia*, the ſame day and year aboveſaid.

THOs. M'KEAN. *L. S.*

SAMUEL BRYAN, *Clerk of Gen. Aſſembly.*

M. Nicholson

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRD SESSION

OF THE

Ninth General Aſſembly

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA.

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday* the Twenty Third Day of *Auguſt* in the Year of our LORD one Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty Five.

Tueſday, Auguſt 23, 1785. P. M,

MR. Speaker, with thirty-five members met, purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow. P. M.

Wedneſday, Auguſt 24, 1785. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a quorum of repreſentatives, met, purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Moore,* and Mr. *M'Pherſon* be a committee to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion.

14 9
12 6

37. 10

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *Lollar*, be a committee to examine the minutes of the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs.

A letter from the hon. *Charles Pettit*, eſq. one of the delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, together with its incloſures, relative to the finances of the union, and the want of due and regular repreſentation in Congreſs being maintained by ſeveral of the ſtates, which greatly impedes the public buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Ebenezar Hazard*, eſq. Poſt-Maſter General, was read, ſtating, That the reſolution of this Houſe, relative to the eſtabliſhment of a poſt between this city and *Fort-Pitt*, paſſed the 7th day of *April* laſt, contains reſtrictions which interfere with the Ordinance of Congreſs, for regulating the Poſt-Office; but that the eſtabliſhment of a poſt to *Fort Pitt* has, among other things, been ſubmitted to the conſideration of Congreſs, as a meaſure which bids fair to be productive of general utility.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, Auguſt 25, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Leacock* Townſhip, in the County of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incoporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, and report the unfiniſhed buſineſs, made report, in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Moore* being a Truſtee of the Univerſity of the State of *Pennſylvania* and a member of this Houſe, notified the Houſe of the elections of *Jonathan Dickinſon Sergeant* and *Frederick Kuhl*, Eſqrs. as Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity; the former in the room of the late Hon. *Joſeph Reed*, Eſq. deceaſed, and the latter in the room of *Timothy Matlack*, Eſq. who hath reſigned.

The Committee appointed to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, report their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer that Council were preparing buſineſs, which they would lay before the Houſe.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for incorporating the* German Lutheran *congregation of* Germantown *Townſhip, in the County of* Philadelphia, *in the State of* Pennſylvania;" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the Congregation of* Seven-Day Baptiſts, *reſiding within the Townſhips of* Weſtnantmill *and* Coventry, *and places adjacent, in the County of* Cheſter," was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to enable the Commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a Lottery ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building* Newark Academy *and* Skippack Lutheran Church, *and repairing* Norriton Meeting Houſe, *and every other perſon concerned therein, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the third time, and in part, debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed,
Adjourned until nine o'clock tomorrow, A. M.

Friday, Auguſt 26, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council attending at the door was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Gentlemen,

WITH this meſſage will be delivered acts of Congreſs of the twenty-third day of February, ſeventeenth and thirty-firſt of *March*, twelfth and thirteenth of *April*, fourth, twentieth and twenty-fourth of *May*, firſt and ſeventh of *June*, and the twentieth and twenty-ſeventh of *July*, a letter of the fourteenth of *April* from the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, two letters from the War Office of the twenty-fifth of April, and the twenty-third of *June*, one of the twenty-fourth of *May* from the governor of *Virginia*, another of the twenty-eighth of *July* from the governor of *Maſſachuſetts*, with encloſures, and two from General *Irvine* of the firſt of *June* and the eighteenth of *July*, and ſeveral papers relating to outrages in the County of *Northumberland*.

We ſhould be glad to be informed, as ſoon as poſſible, of your determination concerning the raiſing of the troops required from this ſtate.

The intereſt of the commonwealth will be greatly affected, unleſs Congreſs ſpeedily determine the controverſy with thoſe perſons, who hold lands within our limits not claimed under *Pennſylvania* rights.

We ſhould not think ourſelves excuſeable, if we ſhould forbear to repeat that great alterations are neceſſary in the militia laws. They ſhould be reduced into one act, and ſuch order given to the ſyſtem, that upon every occaſion an adequate force properly armed, equipped, and diſciplined, may be promptly drawn forth, embodied and employed.

As many circumſtances render it probable, that the attention of your honorable houſe will be much engaged in conſidering the affairs of trade; we truſt that your deciſions will be combined with the moſt prudent and effectual meaſures for ſecuring and extending our commercial intercourſe throughout all its various and complicated branches, with the reſt of the United States, which we regard as an object of very high conſequence.

The articles of the union being in our judgment very defective, we were induced, two years ago " *Moſt earneſtly to recommend,* that the *confederation* " might be STRENGTHENED *and* IMPROVED."

There was reaſon to hope, that peace would afford ſo much leiſure, that this important work might ſoon be accompliſhed. The event, indeed, has not correſponded with our wiſhes; but we are pleaſed to find an opinion generally prevailing at this time, that ſome amendment of the confederation is neceſſary

As we continue fully perſuaded, that the happineſs of our poſterity muſt, under Providence, depend upon " the reſpect, tranquility, and ſafety, that " are naturally attached to an *extenſive* and *well-eſtabliſhed* empire," we anxiouſly deſire, that the preſent diſpoſition may be ſo directed, that inſtead of ſtopping at *partial* proviſions, it may lead to as *perfect* an eſtabliſhment of the union as can be deviſed.

We therefore eſteem ourſelves indiſpenſably bound, not only again to declare our ſenſe, that further authorities ought to be veſted in the fœderal council: but to mention ſuch as appear to us moſt material.—Theſe are, the powers of regulating and protecting commerce; of impoſing equal duties on importations for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue, and collecting them by officers of the appointment of Congreſs; of impoſing and collecting poſtage in the ſame manner, and for the ſame purpoſe; of puniſhing officers of the confederated republic, in ſome preſcribed manner of proceeding; of adjuſting the quotas of all charges and expences, by a fixed, equitable, and eaſily-practicable method, and of maintaining the law of nations.

Many perſons are now very earneſt to have the firſt of theſe powers lodged in Congreſs without limitation. If ſuch an abſolute reſignation ſhould be judged improper, there can be no doubt, but the grant may be ſo modified as to produce the deſired effects, without being liable to the inconveniences apprehended from an unqualified ceſſion.

We have received ſeveral applications, herewith tranſmitted, for licences to trade with the Indians; but have declined granting any, until we could know, whether they would be approved by the legiſlature.

A number of invalids belonging to this commonwealth, lately diſcharged from the ſervice of the United States, have applied to us for their ſubſiſtence, according to the reſolution of Congreſs in June laſt. The managers of the Alms-Houſe and Houſe of Employment, have, at our requeſt been ſo kind as to give them temporary relief.

Theſe men, whoſe diſtreſſes proceed from their ſufferings in the cauſe of their country, are recommended to her protection, by ſuch ſtrong conſiderations, that, we are confident, the General Aſſembly will with particular pleaſure adopt meaſures for affording them immediate, regular, and liberal ſupport.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council-Chamber, Philadelphia, Auguſt 25, 1785.

A Petition from *Daniel Griffith*, in behalf of himſelf and others, was read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled, "*An act to incorporate the congregation of* Seven Day Baptiſts, *reſiding in the Townſhips of* Weſtnantmel *and* Coventry *and places adjacent in the County of* Cheſter;" and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Cheſnut-Level*, in the Townſhip of *Drumore*, and County of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying that the bill publiſhed for conſideration, for the purpoſe of incorporating the ſaid ſociety, may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *John Harris*, *John Brice*, *Joſeph Shober*, *Francis Wright*, *George Ritchie*, *Henry Buck*, *John Hall*, *William Tucker*, *Andrew Greble*, jun. *Reynhold Schryder*, *John Pelton*, *Levy Reubens*, inſolvent debtors confined in the gaol of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their impriſonment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Managers of the State Lottery, was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of enacting by a ſupplement to the act for inſtituting the ſaid lottery, that, inſtead of the preſent mode, directed by ſaid act, blanks ſhould be intermixed and drawn with the prizes, in the ſecond, third, and fourth claſſes of the ſaid lottery.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Hannah Crawford*, widow of the late Colonel *William Crawford*, of the County of *Fayette*, was read, ſetting forth, That her ſaid late huſband, with the countenance of General *Irvine*, commanding officer at *Pittſburgh*, led out a volunteer body of militia, principally from this ſtate, to *Sanduſky*, where he was put to death by the Savages; that from his attention to the defence of the frontiers, againſt the enemy, his private eſtate has been not only neglected but conſiderably encumbered, which has reduced her to indigence, and praying ſhe may be intitled to the annuity allowed to the widows of officers who have died in actual ſervice.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Robert Smith* and *George Schloſſer*, two of the Truſtees of the General Loan Office of this Commonwealth, was read, praying that another Truſtee of the ſaid Loan Office may be appointed in the room of *Joſeph Dean*, Eſq. who hath reſigned; and that an additional number of gentlemen may be appointed to ſign the money to be let out on loan.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Deborah Irwin*, was read, ſetting forth, That in conſequence of the act paſſed at the laſt ſeſſion of this Houſe, ſhe received a certificate for the depreciation due on her huſband's pay, but could not receive the intereſt payable thereon, as her ſaid huſband was a priſoner with the *Algerines* on the coaſt of *Africa*, and not preſent to tender the oaths required by a former act of Aſſembly, that no alienation of the ſaid certificate had been made, and ſtating her diſtreſſed ſituation; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the bill entitled, "*An act to enable the honourable* Edward Shippen, *Eſq.* John Swift, *Eſq. the only ſurviving truſtees, now reſident within " this ſtate, to grant, bargain, ſell, and aſſure a certain meſſuage and lot of " ground in the City of* Philadelphia, *commonly called the* Maſon's Lodge, *and " to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein mentioned.*"

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Monday* next be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the general elections of this Com" monwealth, and to prevent frauds therein.*"

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants reſiding in the lower parts of *Lancaſter* County were ſeverally read, praying the intereſt which hath ariſen on the purchaſe money of their lands may be extinguiſhed until the termination of the war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read this forenoon, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Long*, Mr. *J. Craig*, Mr. *Ewing*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *Finley*, Mr. *Smiley*, *and* Mr. *G. Smith*, to arrange the ſubject matters thereof, and make report accordingly.

On motion *Ordered*, That next *Monday* week be aſſigned to take up for a third reading, the bill entitled, "*An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* " An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of North America;"

“ *alſo one other act entitled,* “ An act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting the common ſeal, bank bills, and bank notes of the preſident, directors, and company of the Bank of *North America,*” and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.”

The bill entitled, “ *An act to repeal part of an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* “ An act to prevent the erecting any new and independent ſtate within the limits of this commonwealth,” *ſo far as it directs trial for offences in another county, than that in which the offence was or might have been committed,*” was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill entitled “ *An act for declaring the acts of Aſſembly which give the authority of juſtices of the peace to the chief burgeſs of the borough of* Lancaſter, *and to the burgeſſes of the boroughs of* Carliſle *and* Reading *to be ſo far contrary to the Conſtitution, and to repeal the ſame acts, ſo far as they contradict the Conſtitution,*” was read the third time and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, Auguſt 27, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the Commiſſioners for erecting a Court Houſe and Priſon in the Town of *Norris* in the County of *Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, That by the law for laying off ſaid County, a proportionate part of the money ariſing on the Sale of the Old Goal and Work Houſe, and Lots whereon the ſame are erected, within the city of *Philadelphia*, was appropriated for the Erection of the Buildings committed to their charge as aforeſaid; that, confiding in the Law by which they were appointed, and encouraged by an aſſurance from His Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, that a ſpeedy Sale ſhould be made of the ſaid Old Goal, *&c.* they entered into contract, as well for the materials, as with the workmen neceſſary to compleat the ſaid Buildings—that a conſiderable progreſs has been made—that they made a ſecond application to the Supreme Executive Council, and were greatly diſappointed by their Reſolution, “ That the ſame be not now Sold”—that by the Law aforeſaid no Tax can be laid on the County of *Montgomery*, until its quota of the neat proceeds of the Old Goal, *&c.* be aſcertained: Therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Jean Baptiſt Abel Hamelin*, an inſolvent Debtor confined in the Goal of the City and County of Philadelphia, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Archibald M‘Lean*, late a Soldier in the ſecond Pennſylvania Regiment, was read, ſetting forth, That he was robbed of the Certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed yeſterday on the Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, and the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, made report, which was read, and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time; whereupon the Houſe came to the following Reſolutions, *viz.*

1. *Reſolved*, That the letter from the Governor of *Virginia* and the papers

ers accompanying the ſame, requeſting permiſſion to lay out and improve a oad through ſuch parts of this State, as may be neceſſary in the beſt and moſt roper direction from Fort *Cumberland* to the navigable part of *Youghiogeny* ver, in order to render the improvement making in the navigation of the eſtern waters extenſively uſeful, be referred to Mr. *Cluggage*, Mr. *Ritchie*, nd Mr. *Johnſton* to report thereon.

2. *Reſolved*, That the Reſolutions of Congreſs, relative to the raiſing of roops for the protection of the north-weſtern frontiers, *&c.* be referred to r. *Will*, Mr. *Eyre*, and Mr. *Miller*, for the purpoſe of draughting and ringing in a Bill conformably to the ſaid Reſolutions.

3. *Reſolved*, That Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *Abraham Smith* e a Committee to report on the Petitions reſpecting the Indian Trade.

4. *Reſolved*, That Mr. *Long*, Mr. *R. Craig*, and Mr. *Smiley* be a Com-ittee to bring in a Bill to make proviſion for diſabled officers, ſoldiers, and eamen, agreeably to the recommendation of Congreſs.

5. *Reſolved*, That the Letter from His Excellency Governor *Bowdoin* of he State of *Maſſachuſetts*, be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *enkins* to report thereon.

6. *Reſolved*, That the Clerk of this Houſe furniſh Congreſs with 13 Co-ies of the Laws of this Commonwealth enacted ſince the Revolution; and hat the ſame number of Copies be hereafter reſerved of all Laws that may e enacted, for their uſe, conformably to the requiſition of Congreſs.

The Bill entitled, " *A Supplement to an act, entitled*, " An act for erect-' ing part of the county of Bedford into a ſeparate county," was read the hird time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Friday next be aſſigned to take up for a third eading the Bill, entitled, " An act to encourage and protect the manufac-' tures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of cer-' tain Manufactures which interfere with them."

The Bill entitled, " An act concerning Divorces and Alimony," was read he third time, whereupon

Ordered, That Thurſday next be aſſigned for the purpoſe of debating the ame by paragraphs.

The Bill entitled, " An act to re-eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the " borough of Briſtol, in the county of Bucks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, " *A Supplement to the act entitled*, " An act for build-" ing Market Houſes, and keeping a public Market, on both ſides of *Cal-" lowhill* Street and *New-Market* Street, in the Northern Liberties of the " city of *Philadelphia*; was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *Auguſt* 29, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the committee of merchants, and traders, within the City of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of this Houſe adopting ſuch meaſures as may tend to reſtore our trade, and maintain the inherent local advantages which belong to this country, as well as to eſtabliſh proper regulations and encouragement, whereby many articles of Import may be manufactured within this State, and that the merchants, however it may interfere with their individual intereſts, will chearfully ſubmit to ſuch prohibitions and impoſts on Commerce, as may be judged neceſſary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from the Commiſſioners appointed to ſuperintend the laying ou a Town on the banks of the *Suſquehanna*, at or near *Harris's* ferry, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, encloſing deeds from *John Harris* to the ſaid Commiſſioners in truſt for the Commonwealth, for *Harris'* ferry over the *Suſquehanna*, four acres of ground within the Town of *Harriſburgh*, &c.

A Petition from divers freeholders of the Town of *Harriſburgh*, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed to enable them to elect as many Magiſtrates as thoſe county towns within this State, who are incorporated, are legally authoriſed to do.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the Inhabitants of the Townſhip of *Eaſt* and *Weſt Bradford*, *Eaſt* and *Weſt Caln*, *Weſt Whiteland*, *Weſtnantmell*, *Weſt-town*, *Goſhen*, *Sadſbury*, *Newlin*, and *Eaſt Fallowfield*, in *Cheſter* county, were read, ſetting forth their diſtant ſituation from the place appointed by law for holding their annual elections, and praying that the ſaid Townſhips may be formed into a new diſtrict, and that the Houſe of *John Culbertſon*, known by the name of the *Pennſylvania Arms*, may be appointed the place for holding the annual General Elections of the Townſhips aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the Inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, were read, praying an act may be paſſed declaring *Aughwic* Creek a public Highway, and to pull down all obſtructions already built, as well as to prevent any in future being erected acroſs the ſaid Creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Memorial of the Commiſſioners for erecting a Court Houſe and Priſon in the town of *Norris*, in the county of *Montgomery*, read *Auguſt* 27 inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia* and of the county of *Montgomery* to report a Bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The Memorial of the managers of the State Lottery read *Auguſt* 26 inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Strawbridge*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Loller* to enquire into and make report on the ſtate of the ſaid Lottery.

The Petition of *Deborah Erwin* read *Auguſt* 26 inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *J. Clark*, and Mr. *R. Ralſton* to report thereon.

The Petition of *Robert Smith* and *George Schloſſer*, Truſtees of the Loan Office, read *Auguſt* 26 inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Coats*, and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* to report a Bill.

A Petition and Remonſtrance from the Overſeers of the Poor for the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark* and townſhip of the Northern Liberties, was read, remonſtrating againſt clauſes of the Bill entitled, " *A Supplement to the poor laws of this Commonwealth*," and praying the ſaid Bill, as publiſhed for conſideration, may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed, *April* 8th laſt, " to proceed to *Wyoming* as ſoon " as may be, and there make ſuch enquiry as to them, or any two of them, " ſhall appear neceſſary for the peace and good order of the people, and the " regular adminiſtration of juſtice," made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for taking up for a third reading the Bill entitled, " An act to regulate the General Elections of this " Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," be poſtponed until Wedneſday next.

The Bill entitled, " An act for the ſupport of Government," was read the third time, and in debating the following Section, *viz.*

" Sect. 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the following daily wages ſhall be allowed and paid to the perſons hereafter mentioned, *to wit :*

" To the Delegates or Deputies of this Commonwealth in the Congreſs of the United States of America, for every day's attendance in the public ſervice, each the ſum of ſix Dollars or forty-five Shillings.

" To the Members of the Supreme Executive Council, other than the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, for every day's attendance, each the ſum of fifteen Shillings.

" To the Speaker of the Houſe of Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall attend in the General Aſſembly, the ſum of twenty-two Shillings and Sixpence.

" To every other Member of the Houſe of Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall attend in the General Aſſembly, the ſum of fifteen Shillings.

" To the Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall attend upon his duty, the ſum of twenty Shillings.

" To the Clerk Aſſiſtant of the General Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall attend upon his duty, the ſum of fifteen Shillings.

" To the Serjeant at Arms attending the General Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall be employed therein, the ſum of ten Shillings.

" To the door-keeper of the Executive Council, and to the door-keeper of the General Aſſembly, for every day they ſhall ſeverally attend upon their reſpective duties, the ſum of ten Shillings."

It was moved by Mr. *Boys*, ſeconded by Mr. *Coats*, to ſtrike out, after the words " To every Member of the General Aſſembly, for every day he ſhall " attend in the General Aſſembly, the ſum of" the words " *Fifteen Shillings*," in order to inſert in lieu thereof " *Twelve Shillings and Sixpence*," on the queſtion, *Shall the Words be ſtruck out ?* The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Boys* and Mr. *Coats*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *William Will*,
3. *Elias Boys*,
4. *William Coats*,
5. *John Clark*,
6. *John Keller*,
7. *Arthur Erwin*,
8. *Richard Willing*,
9. *Robert Brown*,
10. *Daniel Montgomery*,
11. *Peter Richards*,
12. *Robert Loller*,
13. *George Smith*,
14. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Jacob Engle*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *Thomas Long*,
6. *Joſeph Thomas*,
7. *Edward Jones*,
8. *Robert Ralſton*,

NAYS.

9. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
10. *Perſifor Frazer,*
11. *Charles Humphreys,*
12. *John Craig,*
13. *James Porter,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert Craig,*
16. *Robert Clark,*
17. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
18. *Henry Miller,*
19. *John Hay,*
20. *Philip Gartner,*
21. *James Ewing.*
22. *David M‘Conaughy,*
23. *Henry Tyſon,*
24. *Joſeph Lilly,*
25. *Frederick Watts,*
26. *Robert Whitehill,*
27. *Nicholas Lutz,*

NAYS.

28. *Abraham Lincoln.*
29. *Henry Spyker.*
30. *David Davis,*
31. *Philip Kreemer,*
32. *Peter Burkhalter,*
33. *Jonas Hartzel,*
34. *John Ralſton,*
35. *Robert Cluggage,*
36. *Frederick Antes,*
37. *Samuel Dale,*
38. *William Finlay,*
39. *Thomas Morton,*
40. *Matthew Ritchie,*
41. *John M‘Dowell,*
42. *John Smiley,*
43. *James Johnſton,*
44. *Abraham Smith,*
45. *James M‘Calmont.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid Bill having been thereupon fully debated by paragraphs, *Ordered*, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

YOU will herewith receive a Letter from General *Irvine*, appointed by us Agent under the Act directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, his report, and our inſtructions to the Surveyor General.

Upon conſideration of that Act, and other circumſtances, we are of opinion, that the proceedings of the Deputy Surveyors ſhould be at preſent ſuſpended, and ſeveral amendments made in the law, in order moſt effectually to ſecure to the objects of it the benefits intended by the Legiſlature.

Incloſed are ſeveral papers relating to applications of *Ann Tatnall*, *William Pollard*, and *Nathaniel Gald.*

We have carefully examined the merits of theſe caſes, and, finding that we cannot legally afford relief, we hope you will approve our earneſtly recommending them to the attention of your Honourable Houſe.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council-Chamber, *Philadelphia*, *Auguſt* 29, 1785.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read.

A Letter from the Comptroller General was read, ſetting forth, That at the laſt Seſſion of this Houſe an Act was paſſed allowing an appeal to the Supreme Court from his deciſion, only upon accounts ſubſequent to the paſſing thereof, and ſubmitting to the wiſdom of this Houſe the propriety of extending the privileges of the aforeſaid Act to all thoſe whoſe accounts were ſettled by him before the paſſing thereof; and whether the procedure directed by the Act of the 13th of *April*, 1782, for the recovery of balances due to the State, might not be altered with advantage, nearer to the mode of recovering debts due between individuals after judgment obtained.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, praying that the Bill entitled, “ *An act to enable* *to build a new Court* “ *Houſe and Priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the old Court* “ *Houſe and Priſon in the town of* Sunbury,” may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, “ *An* “ *act for furniſhing the quota of Troops required by Congreſs for the protection of* “ *the north-weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act to enable* *to build a new Court* “ *Houſe and Priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the old Court* “ *Houſe and Priſon in the town of* Sunbury,” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill, entitled, “ *An act to* “ *enable Commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a* “ *Lottery, ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building Newark Academy and a* “ *German Lutheran Church in* Whitpaine *townſhip, in the county of* Montgo- “ mery, *and repairing Norriton Meeting Houſe, and every other perſon concern-* “ *ed therein,—and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, Auguſt 30, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions ſigned by upwards of 1100 of the Inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill, entitled, “ *An act to* “ *enable* *to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county* “ *of* Bucks, *and to ſell the Court Houſe and Priſon at* Newton,” and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were ſeverally read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled “ *An act to* “ *enable* *to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county of* “ Northumberland, *and to ſell the Court Houſe and Priſon in the town of* Sun- “ bury,” and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Southampton*, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, That a certain negro man was ſet free by *John Naylor*, deceaſed, is become chargeable to the ſaid townſhip for ſupport, that, by the laſt Will and Teſtament of ſaid *Naylor*, four acres of land were bequeathed as a public Burying Ground for the uſe of the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhip; that no uſe hath been made of the ſame for a number of years,—and praying an Act may be paſſed authoriſing and empowering two or more perſons to ſell and convey the ſaid land, and that the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale ſhall be applied towards the ſupport and maintenance of the poor of the ſaid townſhip.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Matthew Henderſon* was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer contained in the petition of *John Bryce*, read *Auguſt* 26 inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this Commonwealth was read, ſetting forth, That the roads from the eaſt ſide of the *North Mountain* to the weſt ſide of the *Cheſnut Ridge*, weſtward of *Ligonier*, being more than one hundred miles in length, are laid out over a very mountainous country, in which the inhabitants are but few in number, and unable to bear the burthen which muſt neceſſarily ariſe on the repairing of the ſaid roads, ſo as to make them advantageous to the trade of this State; therefore praying the ſame may be improved at the expence of the State; and they have no doubt but that the impoſt on goods tranſported from *Philadelphia* to *Fort Pitt*, and from thence down the river *Ohio*, &c. will produce a ſufficiency to defray the expence of the ſaid roads.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial of the Preſident and Directors of the Bank of *North America* was read, ſetting forth, That they applied to the Houſe in their laſt Seſſions to be heard in oppoſition to the Bill for reſuming the Charter granted by this State to the ſaid Bank; that they are not, however, diſcouraged from renewing their application upon this ſubject, which they apprehend cannot be denied them, without violating both the eſſentials and the forms of juſtice; and ſtating the utility of the ſaid Bank to the national concerns, to the agriculture of this State in particular, and accommodations of individuals; that they have no doubt but they will be able, if heard, to invalidate every objection that has been offered againſt ſaid inſtitution: Therefore praying to be heard by themſelves or Council, before any further proceedings be had thereon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *John Ceſna* was read, ſtating, That, by reaſon of divers loſſes and misfortunes, he is unable to pay his taxes and money due the State for land; therefore praying to be exonerated therefrom.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *William Clingan* was read, ſetting forth, That, on the night of the 23d of *June*, 1783, he was robbed of a Depreciation Certificate for L.88-13-1. by him purchaſed; and praying that a new one may be granted him, in lieu of that of which he hath been robbed as aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers privates, late of the eighth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation of their pay, in like manner as has been granted to theſe regiments who were deranged.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, repreſenting the peculiar hardſhips and ſufferings of the inhabitants on the weſtern frontiers during the late war; that many of them were driven off their plantations by the Indians, who deſtroyed their houſes and property left behind them; and that they have not been in poſſeſſion of their land again but about a year; that from the operation of the above cauſes, they are ſo impoveriſhed as to be totally unable to pay, for a conſiderable time, the purchaſe money and intereſt due thereon to the State for their lands; that they highly approve of the Bill publiſhed by the Aſſembly for exonerating them from the payment of intereſt, *&c.* during the war, and for giving further time for the payment of the purchaſe monies, by ordering it to be paid by inſtalments, ſo far as it extends, but that, from their diſtreſſed ſituation, pray that the firſt payment be not required ſooner than four years, and that lands held by improvement rights may be alſo favoured.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the Chair an Abſtract of the accounts of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, from the 25th of *April* 1784, till the 25th of *April* 1785, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *J. Clark*, and Mr. *R. Ralſton* to arrange the ſubject-matters, and report thereon.

The Memorial of the committee of the Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Ewing*, and Mr. *Johnſton* to report a Bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The report of the committee appointed to proceed to *Wyoming*, &c. read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, together with the ſeveral papers therein referred to, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the* STATE *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

YOUR Committee appointed by Reſolve of the 8th of *April* laſt, to "proceed to *Wyoming* as ſoon as may be, and there make ſuch enquiry as to them, or any two of them, ſhall appear neceſſary for the peace "and good order of the people, and the regular adminiſtration of juſtice,— "and report to this Houſe in their next Seſſion, *&c,*" beg leave to report, That, in obedience to ſaid Reſolve, they did, as ſoon as the weather permitted, proceed to *Wyoming*, and, to the beſt of their abilities, perform the duties required of them.—That, on their return, they reported their proceedings to the honourable the Executive Council, a copy of which report, and of the other papers therein referred to, they now lay before the Houſe for their information.

Upon a reference to theſe papers, which contain the principal part of our tranſactions at *Wyoming*, the Houſe will readily obſerve, that the chief complaint ſubſiſting among them, at that time, was reſpecting the choice and appointment of magiſtrates; but, as the meaſures purſued by the ſettlers there are ſubverſive of the civil authority of this State, we cannot but doubt the ſincerity of their declarations, "*That they are willing to ſubmit to our Government.*"

Upon the whole, as application has been made to Congreſs to appoint a Federal Court, for the purpoſe of determining the right of ſoil, we would beg leave to recommend, that inſtructions be given to the Delegates of this State in Congreſs to urge an immediate deciſion on the queſtion, "Whether the "Inhabitants now ſettled at *Wyoming*, under the late claim of *Connecticut*, "have, or have not, a right to a Federal Court to try their claim of property in the ſoil?" The deciſion of this queſtion will, in the opinion of your Committee, clearly point out what ſteps may be neceſſary for this State to purſue, in order to reduce the diſorderly inhabitants to a due ſubmiſſion to its Laws and Government, and take off all complaint of ſeverity and partiality on the one hand, and the want of attention and firmneſs on the other.

JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

PHILADELPHIA, *May* 17, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

IN conformity to the reſolution of Aſſembly of the 8th of *April* laſt, we have been at *Wyoming*; and, as ſaid reſolution directs us, "as early as "may be, to report to Council the ſtate of the inhabitants reſpecting the "diſputes and diſorders ſubſiſting there," we beg leave to lay before Council our proceedings.—On our arrival at *Wyoming*, we were viſited by *David Meade* Eſq; who informed us that the *Connecticut* claimants had choſen a committee to tranſact buſineſs with us, and that he ſincerely hoped that matters would be amicably ſettled. In the evening two of the committee waited on us, and requeſted a conference, which we agreed to; and, after giving them a copy of the reſolution of the Houſe, *&c.* they left us, fixing on the next day to meet in conference.

We accordingly left them,—and, after a long free converſation on the ſubject of our miſſion, it was agreed, that our further proceedings ſhould be carried on in writing. The next day we ſent them the Letter N°. I. and received their anſwer N°. II. our reply N°. III. and their ſecond anſwer N°. IV. our laſt letter N°. V. copies of which we now incloſe, for the peruſal of Council.—We are ſorry to ſay, that although at firſt we had ſome hopes of ſucceeding, and putting a ſtop to the irregularities and diſorders prevailing there, yet, at the concluſion, we were by no means ſatisfied. There are a number of orderly decent people who claim property, that would be glad to ſee the laws executed and good order reſtored; but there is a party who govern, who are men deſtitute of property and principle, and are daily committing the moſt arbitrary and cruel acts of oppreſſion on thoſe citizens claiming under *Pennſylvania*; moſt of whom have had their property taken from them, and been ordered to quit the ſettlement—the few who remain are in daily expectation of receiving the ſame treatment. The country affords a melancholy view of deſolation and ruin—little or no improvement, and but few attempting to put in grain the enſuing ſeaſon.

We were witneſſes to ſeveral ſcenes of diſtreſs and miſery that the unhappy people, who were driven off in the winter and ſpring, are now ſuffering; ſome driven over the mountains, and living in cabins—others have taken refuge with the inhabitants of *Northampton* county, and down the *Suſquehanna* near *Sunbury*, many of them entirely dependent on the humanity of thoſe poor people with whom they reſide. Their ſufferings have almoſt drove them to deſperation, and we had frequent hints, that unleſs government interfered ſpeedily, they would endeavour to do themſelves juſtice. We have endeavoured to diſcourage this mode of proceeding, and aſſured them we would mention their ſituation to government, and did not doubt but meaſures would ſpeedily be taken for the reſtoration of good order and obedience to the laws.

Council will obſerve, in the *Wyoming* committee's anſwer, N°. IV. they declare their intention to ſubmit to the laws, *&c.* We thereupon determined ed to put them to the teſt, and adviſed Mr. *Meade*, in caſe of any application to him by perſons injured, to proceed according to law againſt the offenders, and we earneſtly requeſted col. *Butler* and capt. *Schott* to aſſiſt and ſupport him in the execution of his office. In the mean time, we concluded it beſt to return by *Northumberland*, in order to ſend up the Sheriff, (whoſe authority they did not diſpute) who had ſundry precepts iſſued from the Supreme Court which were not ſerved. On our arrival at *Sunbury*, we found the Sheriff from home, but had him immediately ſent for, with our earneſt requeſt, that he would without delay proceed to *Wyoming* and ſerve his precepts.

Should they ſubmit to his authority, and be brought to trial, we yet hope they may be reduced to order ; but ſhould they refuſe ſubmiſſion, government will ſee the neceſſity of ſpeedily taking other meaſures.

At *Northumberland* we received the incloſed letter N°. VI. from Mr. *Meade*, and ſent him our anſwer N°. VII.

We have now laid before Council the moſt material parts of our negotiations with the inhabitants of *Wyoming* : and ſhould there be any further information that it is in our power to give, we ſhall be happy in communicating it——And are, with due reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,

Your moſt obedient Servants,
JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

His Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council.

N°. I.

WYOMING, *May* 6, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

IN conformity to our promiſe made to you in the conference held yeſterday afternoon, we now propoſe to you the following Queries, which we wiſh you ſeriouſly to conſider, and favour us with your anſwer as ſoon as poſſible.

1ſt, Is it the wiſh and determination of the people, you repreſent, called the *Connecticut* claimants, to ſubmit to, and ſupport the laws and conſtitution of this State ?

2d, Will they ſupport and countenance the civil officers in the regular adminiſtration of juſtice, and oppoſe all illegal and unconſtitutional meaſures that may be taken by any perſons contrary thereto ?

3d, As the Legiſlature have fully evinced their determination to protect the citizens, in every part of the State, in the full enjoyment of life, liberty, and property ; and as you are well acquainted with the meaſures that have been taken to puniſh thoſe who, in a lawleſs manner, diſpoſſeſſed a number of ſettlers laſt *May*, we wiſh to be informed, by what authority a number of people, who were peaceable inhabitants, have, during the courſe of the Winter and Spring, been diſpoſſeſſed of their property, and ordered to remove from this place,—and whether the perſons, aſſuming and executing ſuch authority, are ſupported and countenanced by the people you repreſent ?

We ſincerely wiſh for a ſatisfactory anſwer to the above Queries, which may tend to the reſtoration of peace and good order to all the inhabitants of this unhappy ſettlement.——We are,

GENTLEMEN,

Your very humble Servants,
JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

Meſſ. Zebulon Butler and others, a Committee appointed to confer with a Committee of the General Aſſembly.

N°. II.

N°. II.

WYOMING, *May* 6, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE received your billet this 6th of *May*, 1785, and think the proſpect of an amicable compromiſe very near at hand, and likewiſe hope, gentlemen, that you may be uſed as the happy inſtruments, under the great Jehovah, of reſtoring peace and good order to this ſettlement, according to the Conſtitution of *Pennſylvania*.——Gentlemen, your firſt queſtion is as follows, *viz*. Is it the wiſh and determination of the people you repreſent, called the *Connecticut* claimants, to ſubmit to, and ſupport the laws and conſtitution of this State ? *Anſwer*. 'Tis the deſire and wiſh of us and the people we repreſent to ſupport the conſtitutional laws and conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania*, and has been, ever ſince the decree at *Trenton*.——Gentlemen, your ſecond queſtion is as follows, *viz*. Will they ſupport and countenance the civil officers in the regular adminiſtration of juſtice, and oppoſe all illegal and unconſtitutional meaſures which may be taken by any perſons contrary thereto ? In anſwer to your ſecond queſtion, we aſſert, and are able to maintain, that there never have been any civil officers, according to the conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania*, elected in this ſettlement, ſince the decree at *Trenton*.—Let us have conſtitutional civil officers, that is, men elected by us, at an open and general election warned according to the laws of this State ; ſuch civil officers we will ſupport, in the full and regular adminiſtration of juſtice, with our lives and fortunes.——Gentlemen, in anſwer to your third queſtion, or rather requiſition, which is as follows, *viz*. We wiſh to be informed by what authority a number of perſons, who were peaceable inhabitants, have, during the courſe of laſt Winter and Spring, been diſpoſſeſſed of their property, and ordered to remove from this ſettlement ; and whether the perſons, aſſuming and executing ſuch authority, are ſupported and countenanced by the people you repreſent ? Gentlemen, in compliance with your wiſh of information, *by what authority a number of peaceable inhabitants have, during the courſe of laſt Winter and Spring, been diſpoſſeſſed of their property, and ordered to remove from this ſettlement*,—we anſwer in the catagorical ſtile, and affirm, that no peaceable inhabitants, as you call them, on this ſettlement, have ever been ordered to remove off this ſettlement, or diſpoſſeſſed of their property in any reſpect whatſoever, by us or thoſe whom we repreſent, to our knowledge ;—the people whom we repreſent, and we the committee, never countenanced the ordering off any of the peaceable inhabitants of this ſettlement, or any of their property being taken.—Gentlemen, if you have had any complaint of ſuch a nature as you repreſent in your billet, we would wiſh to know the complainants of ſuch a falſhood, and that they ſhould be brought before you and this committee, if this falls under your cognizance. Gentlemen, we would wiſh to aſk the following queſtions, and deſire your ſolution on each queſtion.

Queſt. 1. Whether thoſe perſons who came into this ſettlement under the patronage of *Alexander Patterſon*, a year laſt fall, and took violent poſſeſſion of lands and houſes, and ſtill retain the ſame, which was juſtly held by the *Connecticut* claimants, and who were in peaceable poſſeſſion of theſe lands and houſes, and whether theſe rioters, if now in poſſeſſion of theſe lands and houſes, can, according to law and the conſtitution of this State, be called peaceable inhabitants ?

Queſt. 2. In what point of light do the Legiſlative Body of this State view us ?———We are, with due reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,

Your very humble Servants,

ZEBULON BUTLER.
JOHN D. SCHOTT.
JOHN FRANKLIN.
EBENEZER JOHNSON.
JOHN JENKINS.
CHRISTOPHER HURLBURK.

Honourable John Bayard, Perſifor Frazer, George Smith, a Committee of Aſſembly.

N°. III.

WYOMING, *May* 6th, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have juſt received your anſwer to ours of this morning, and were pleaſed in reading the firſt paragraph, wherein you conſider an amicable compromiſe as near at hand. We aſſure you, that we ſhall eſteem ourſelves happy in accompliſhing ſo important and ſalutary a meaſure.

Your anſwer to our firſt Query is ſomewhat ſatisfactory, but to the others not ſo. Your anſwer to the ſecond, is, " That there never has been any ci- " vil officers, according to the conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania*, elec- " ted in this ſettlement ſince the decree at *Trenton*."——We are ſorry to differ from you on this head; and although we believe that many who were not freeholders did vote; yet we muſt contend, there were freeholders who did vote, and that the ſaid election was in conformity to the Conſtitution, as appears by the proceedings of the committee who were with you at that time, and reported to the Aſſembly, who thereupon eſtabliſhed the election by a law paſſed the 9th day of *September*, 1783, in which the Juſtices of the Peace are particularly named.—We therefore think you bound, as citizens of this State, to ſupport them in the due exerciſe of their authority, until you can make it appear, by a regular proceſs before the proper tribunal, that their appointment is contrary to the Conſtitution—a different conduct is certainly oppoſing the laws and conſtitution of this State.—And we would further obſerve, that if we are rightly informed, many of the *Connecticut* claimants, availed themſelves of the authority of thoſe Juſtices, or ſome of them, in order to claim the re-poſſeſſion of their Houſes and Lotts, agreeably to the law paſſed the 15th of *September* 1784, entitled, " *An act for the more ſpeedy reſtoring the* " *poſſeſſion of certain Meſſuages, Lands, and Tenements in* Northumberland " *county to the perſons who lately held the ſame*," and were thankful to them for the part they acted therein.

Your anſwer to our third Enquiry is alſo unſatisfactory.—You aſſert that " no peaceable inhabitant has been diſpoſſeſſed of property, or obliged to " leave the ſettlement."—In order to underſtand each other properly, we wiſh to give you our idea of a peaceable inhabitant, *viz.* All thoſe who held, and were in poſſeſſion of lands or tenements on the 10th day of *May* 1784, or the time in which you were violently diſpoſſeſſed. Theſe people, whatever right they held under, were in the peaceable enjoyment of property, and we contend, ought not to be diſpoiled or diſpoſſeſſed but by a regular proceſs at law. You, gentlemen, complained of the injuries you received by violence and illegal conduct, and will you, the moment you are reſtored by the laws of the land, countenance the ſame arbitrary and unconſtitutional meaſures againſt another claſs of citizens, whom you deem intruders ? This muſt be conſidered as an oppoſition to law and good government. We are poſſeſſed of a Petition ſigned by a number of reſpectable citizens, complaining, in the moſt ſpirited manner, of the arbitrary and cruel conduct of certain perſons here, in plundering and baniſhing the inhabitants claiming under *Pennſylvania,* and this without any application to civil authority.—We beg you ſeriouſly to conſider what will be the iſſue of this conduct, if perſiſted in.

Your letter concludes with aſking us two queſtions. To the firſt we anſwer, That however theſe people got poſſeſſion of the houſes or lands, they ought not to be diſpoſſeſſed of them but agreeable to law. Had the *Connecticut* claimants proſecuted them for taking violent poſſeſſion, we doubt not but that the laws would have determined the controverſy in a proper manner.

To the ſecond we anſwer, That the Legiſlative Body look upon all perſons reſiding within the chartered bounds of the State, as citizens thereof—who are bound to yield obedience to the laws, and who are intitled, while ſo doing, to the immunities and privileges granted them by the conſtitution.

We have now, gentlemen, only to repeat our ſincere wiſhes, that you will each join heart and hand to put a ſtop to further irregularities and diſorders, and that you would give us proper aſſurances of your determination to ſupport the laws and government of the State. This, in our opinion, is the only method left to reſtore peace and good order to this unhappy ſettlement—and we doubt not but that, on your ſo doing, you will not only experience immediate benefits yourſelves, but afford real happineſs to many who are now ſuffering under former oppreſſions.

We pray God to direct you——and are, with due reſpect,

Your very humble Servants,

JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

Col. Zebulon Butler and others, a Committee of the Settlers at Wyoming.

Nº. IV.

WYOMING, *May* 9, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

WE received your anſwer to our letter bearing date the 6th of *May* 1785, in which you ſay, that our anſwer to your "firſt query is ſomewhat "ſatisfactory." We are ſorry that it was not entirely ſatisfactory to you, when the anſwer was pointed, pertinent, and concluſive to your Query, in our judgment, and without any equivocation.

Our anſwer to your ſecond queſtion, you ſay, is unſatisfactory to you, becauſe we aſſert, there never have been any civil officers, according to the conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania,* elected in this ſettlement ſince the decree of *Trenton.*—In this reſpect, you ſay, you muſt diſſent from us, yet allow in your letter that "there were many who were not freeholders voted at "the ſaid election," in which inſtance yon accord to our major propoſition, *that there never were any civil officers, according to the conſtitution, elected in this ſettlement,*—becauſe, if there were many who were not freeholders voted at the ſaid election we have reference to, then there were many at that election acted in open violation of the conſtitution of *Pennſylvania,*—therefore made that election unconſtitutional and conſequently of no avail. You further proceed, and ſay, that the "ſaid election was in conformity to the con"ſtitution, as appears by the report of the Committee."—Gentlemen, can a committee, or any body of men, make that right which is in its nature wrong?

2*dly,* You ſay "the committee reported to the Aſſembly, who, in conſe"quence of the report, paſſed a particular act to eſtabliſh the ſaid election." —If it was according to the law and conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania,*

nia, what need was there for that honourable body to paſs a particular act to eſtabliſh the ſaid election ?

Gentlemen, notwithſtanding you implicitly acknowledge the illegality of the election of thoſe magiſtrates, yet ſay, you " think we, as citizens of this " State, are bound to ſupport theſe magiſtrates :" how can we, as citizens, be bound to ſupport unconſtitutional meaſures ? Gentlemen, we cannot ſuppoſe you would countenance ſuch an idea, that we, as citizens of this State, are, or were bound to ſupport unconſtitutional magiſtrates, and conſequently act in open violation of the conſtitution of this State.

3dly, You obſerve, that " if you are rightly informed, many of the *Connecticut* claimants availed themſelves of the authority of thoſe magiſtrates, " or ſome of them, in order to claim the repoſſeſſion of their houſes and lotts, " agreeable to the law paſſed the 5th of *September* 1784." In reply, we ſay, That we were laid under the neceſſity of ſo doing, becauſe they were appointed by the authority of this State, and if we had not improved that opportunity, we might have been kept out of our juſt poſſeſſions another year,—therefore there was no other alternative left us, but either to do this, or ſuffer greater evils and misfortunes.—Therefore, it was not a voluntary but an involuntary act in us, that is, it was not free from conſtraint. Therefore, where moral agency ceaſes, all vice and virtue conſequently ceaſe ; and therefore that ought not to be brought againſt us. You, gentlemen, obſerve in the ſame paragraph, that " we were thankful to thoſe magiſtrates for the part they " acted therein."—*Anſwer*. We were bound to be thankful to benefactors ; but we muſt firſt view theſe magiſtrates as benefactors, before we can be thankful to them. We never did view them as benefactors, therefore no thankfulneſs is due from us to them, in that reſpect.——Gentlemen, you ſay our anſwer to your third Query is alſo unſatisfactory, becauſe we aſſert, *that no peaceable inhabitants have ever been diſpoſſeſſed of their property, and obliged to leave this ſettlement.—Reply*. We imagine, that there is a great difference betwixt peaceable inhabitants and rioters, who, in a moſt violent manner, by force and arms, diſpoſſeſſed the *Connecticut* claimants of their property,—and the authority of this State has diſpoſſeſſed thoſe rioters by a ſpecial act for that purpoſe ; and now thoſe rioters ſay the *Connecticut* people have diſpoſſeſſed and ſpoiled them of their property, which we deny in full.——You further ſay, that " you are poſſeſſed of a petition ſigned by a number " of reſpectable inhabitants, complaining, in the moſt ſpirited manner, of " the arbitrary and cruel conduct of certain perſons here, in plundering and " baniſhing the inhabitants claiming under *Pennſylvania* ; and this without " making any application to civil authority."—In reply, we ſay and declare, there have been a great number of inhabitants, or rather intruders, who pretend to claim under *Pennſylvania* title, and who, by force of arms, in a moſt violent manner, contrary to all laws and conſtitution of all Chriſtianized people, diſpoſſeſſed the *New England* ſettlers, and took poſſeſſion of their houſes, lands, and property in a hoſtile manner ; and thoſe ſettlers, ſo forcibly diſpoſſeſſed and plundered, made repeated applications to the legiſlative, executive, judicial, and civil authority of this State, praying for the reſtoration of their rights, property, and poſſeſſions, agreeable to the laws and conſtitution of this State,—and that the legiſlative body of this State, on the 5th of *September* laſt, did reſolve, that theſe ſettlers, ſo forcibly diſpoſſeſſed, ſhould be re-inſtated. And we further declare, that we do not know of any ſuch perſons in this ſettlement, who pretend a claim under the *Pennſylvania* title, who have had any poſſeſſion, except ſuch as were obtained by force of arms ; and we would further ſay, that we are informed by the beſt authority, and know it to be truth, that a great number, if not all, of thoſe perſons who complain of being plundered and baniſhed by the *Connecticut* ſettlers, are thoſe ſame perſons who expelled us from our poſſeſſions, robbed us of our property, *&c.* and then, finding that the laws of this State, relative to forcible entries and detaining, was likely to operate againſt them, fled from the laws of their country, and took off their own property and a conſiderable part of ours. What part of our property they were obliged to leave behind, has ſince fallen into our hands; and yet theſe villains ſay we have robbed and plundered them of their property—which allegations we challenge them to ſupport.

You further ſay, in your letter, that “ we complain of the injuries we have received, by violent and illegal conduct,” and then aſk the queſtion, “ Whether we will countenance the ſame againſt a claſs of citizens whom we repreſent as intruders.”—*Anſwer*. We the committee, nor the people whom we repreſent, never have countenanced any ſuch thing.

Gentlemen, you conclude your letter with a requiſition, that we would join “ heart and hand to put a ſtop to further irregularities and diſorders, and that we would give you proper aſſurances of our determination to ſupport the laws and government of the State.”—In anſwer to yours, we have only to report our former determinations on that head. Gentlemen, we aſſure you, it is our determination to ſupport the laws and conſtitution of this State.

To conclude.—We believe it is the ſincere wiſh of the State, and of you, gentlemen, to promote peace and harmony in this unhappy ſettlement,—yet can't but think it extraordinary, that you ſhould think it conſiſtent with ſound policy or the happineſs of the ſettlement, to countenance theſe magiſtrates in office, who were impoſed on the people without their conſent, and in violation of the conſtitution and laws of the State,—who are daily making inroads thereon, by violently taking poſſeſſion of lands and property, and detaining the ſame from the rightful owners, in open violation of all laws—and conſequently doing great injuſtice to the widow, fatherleſs, and diſtreſſed—of whom *David Meade* is and was, the fulleſt aggreſſor and diſtreſſer of the widows, fatherleſs, and orphans.

Gentlemen, we hope you will voluntarily give us our requeſt, which is, the conſtitution of the State of *Pennſylvania*,—and thereby reſtore peace and tranquillity to this ſettlement, and joy and mirth to this State.——We pray God to give you hearts ſuſceptible of all the feelings of humanity; and in that line we will ſubſcribe ourſelves

Your moſt obedient, and moſt humble Servants,

ZEBULON BUTLER.
JOHN SCHOTT.
JOHN FRANRLIN.
EBENEZER JOHNSON.
JOHN JENKINS.
CHRISTOPHER HURLBURK.

Honourable John Bayard, Perſifor Frazer, George Smith, a Committee of Aſſembly.

N°. V.

WYOMING, *May* 10, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

LAST evening we received yours of the 9th inſtant, in anſwer to ours of the 6th. We are ſincerely ſorry to inform you, that it is in the whole unſatisfactory to us.

As we have, in a plain and candid manner, not only in our letters, but by converſation, informed you what we think the State requires of you as citizens, *viz.* obedience to the laws and thoſe who are appointed to execute them, we think it unneceſſary to go into a particular anſwer to your laſt ;—and having, to the beſt of our abilities, diſcharged our duty to you and our country, we muſt now take our leave of you, after thanking you for any perſonal civilities ſhewn us,—and earneſtly exhorting you to a ſtrict obedience to the authority and laws of the State, which alone will prove your declarations ſincere. A contrary conduct, be aſſured, gentlemen, will end in anarchy, confuſion, and diſtreſs. We ſhall adviſe thoſe claiming under *Pennſylvania* to refrain from all illegal methods of obtaining ſatisfaction for injuries they complain of, and direct them to apply to the laws of their country for redreſs.

We are, GENTLEMEN,
Your very humble Servants,
JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

N°. VI.

WYOMING, *May* 11, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

FROM a multitude of applications this morning, I iſſued a precept againſt *Ebenezer Johnſon* and *John Ganſy*, in a caſe ſo plain, I thought it moſt likely to take, on complaint of a woman whoſe cow was lately taken by violence. An act like that I expected the people moſt ready to bear their teſtimony againſt ; on the other hand, great declarations of diſlike has been made againſt the glaring conduct of this *Johnſon*.

Incloſed I tranſmit you a note to colonel *Butler* and captain *Schott* in particular for ſupport, by which, and their anſwer, you'll be fully ſatisfied, for excuſe they doubt my authority. I believe I mentioned to you, that numbers of precepts are now here iſſued by magiſtrates in *Sunbury* and *Northumberland* town, not complied with :—but what excuſe for non-ſubmiſſion to the proceſs of the Judges of the Supreme Court !—I have juſt received information, that a party is now collecting to drive and diſtreſs the few *Pennſylvanians* left. I propoſe ſending Mrs. *Mead* and children inſtantly out of the way, and ſtand myſelf as long as any kind of prudence will dictate ; in the mean time, by your anſwer, I expect to find whether I am to be protected or not, in any reaſonable time,—if not, I beg, on your arrival at *Philadelphia*, this Letter be preſented to Council, as a token of my reſignation, and that I requeſt the ſame may be received.——I am, in the mean time, with the greateſt reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,
Your moſt humble Servant,
DAVID MEAD.

N. B. Since the concluſion of this Letter, I this minute received the moſt dreadful accounts of diſorders commencing, by the moſt horrid diſtreſs of the few families yet here, and am in fear of bloodſhed ſoon. However, you may reſt aſſured, that I ſhall ſpare no pains to convince the people to ſeek no other than legal redreſs.

D. MEAD.

N°. VII.

NORTHUMBERLAND, *May* 13, 1785.

SIR,

WE juſt now received yours of the 11th, and are exceeding ſorry to find that diſorder and confuſion is again taking place.

Your own prudence muſt direct what will be proper to do in your preſent trying ſituation. We can only ſay, we ſhall lay a candid and true ſtate of matters before government, on our return, and doubt not ſteps will be taken for the immediate ſupport of the laws and good order.—In the mean time, think it would be beſt for you to continue as long as poſſible, and endeavour, by all prudent and conſtitutional meaſures in your power, to prevent further irregularities.——We are, *&c.*

JOHN BAYARD.
PERSIFOR FRAZER.
GEORGE SMITH.

David Mead Eſq.

Whereupon *Ordered,* That they be referred to Mr. *Eyre,* Mr. *Orth,* Mr. *M'Pherſon,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *J. Ralſton,* Mr. *Montgomery,* and Mr. *Ritchie,* to report thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, Auguſt 31, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, addreſſed to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

S I R,

IT being the ſenſe of Council, that the incloſed papers ſhould be communicated to the General Aſſembly, I now have the honour of tranſmitting them.——With very great eſteem, I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
JOHN DICKINSON.

The Hon. the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therein referred to were alſo read.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled, “ *An* “ *act to enable* *to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county* “ *of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the Court Houſe and Priſon in the town of* “ Sunbury,” and praying that the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from a number of inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the ſaid county may not, for the preſent year, be divided into diſtricts, for the purpoſe of elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, praying that the law whereby the Bank is incorporated may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, ſetting forth, That they eſteem it their happineſs that the preſent Houſe of Aſſembly is compoſed of gentlemen, in whoſe wiſdom and juſtice they have an entire confidence; that they have carefully peruſed the Bill for regulating the General Elections, publiſhed for conſideration, that the ſaid Bill is well guarded to prevent frauds generally, but that they are ſorry to have occaſion to call the attention of the Houſe to the laſt election held in the borough of *Lancaſter,* where neither oaths nor laws were of any avail; and as they eſteem a fair choice in their Repreſentatives among the firſt bleſſings of free citizens, they beg leave to expreſs their fears on that head, eſpecially ſince the diviſion of the county, which gives the borough greater weight: They therefore pray, that the Houſe would either reduce that diſtrict to an equality with the reſt, by adding a part thereof to other diſtricts, or aſſign the borough the choice of one member excluſively, ſo as to put the reſt of the country upon an equal footing.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the north-weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe took up for a third reading the Bill entitled, "*An act to enable the honourable Edward Shippen eſquire and John Swift eſquire, the only ſurviving Truſtees now reſident within this State, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey and aſſure a certain Meſſuage and Lot of ground in the city of* Philadelphia, *commonly called the Maſon's Lodge, and to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein mentioned,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz*.

A Supplement to the act entitled, "*An act for building Market Houſes and keeping a Public Market on both ſides of Callow-hill Street and New Market Street, in the northern Liberties of the city of* Philadelphia."

An Act for incorporating the *German Lutheran* congregation of *Germantown* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, in the State of *Pennſylvania*.

An act to repeal part of an act of Aſſembly, entitled, "*An act to prevent the erecting any new and independent State within the limits of this Commonwealth, ſo far as it directs trial for offences in another county than that in which the offence was, or might have been, committed.*"

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof by paragraphs be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Robert Hardie*, late a captain in the State Navy, was reed, repreſenting, That, from warmth of attachment to the liberty and intereſts of *America*,--from a long reſidence in it, as well as from his endeavours for acquiring worldly property being crowned with ſucceſs, he did, in the firſt ſtage of the diſpute with *Britain*, engage himſelf in the ſervice of his country with enthuſiaſtic ardour; that he had the command of the *Burke* Galley, that was employed in the defence of the river *Delaware*: and that whilſt in this command, the enemy took poſſeſſion of this city; that his family being left in it, and receiving information that they were in an afflicted and ſuffering ſtate, and he being kept long out in obſerving the motions of the enemy, and the commodore refuſing to relieve him, he did diſobey orders and left his ſtation, for which he profeſſes his ſorrow. Anxiety of mind about his ſuffering family, and apprehending he was unequally dealt with in being kept too long on duty, impelled him to take this raſh ſtep. That, in conſequence of this, he was tried by a Court Martial at *Briſtol*, *December* 9th, 1777, and broke for diſobedience of orders, againſt which he proteſted to the Supreme Executive Council, who did not ratify the ſentence, and his commiſſion was never taken from him; that he was taken priſoner by the *Britiſh*, and continued priſoner for ſeven months, and conſidered as an officer by them; that the ſenſe of the officers of the late navy of his conduct, appears by a repreſentation ſigned by them, addreſſed to Council; that at various periods, during the war, he put conſiderable ſums of money in the Continental Loan Office, which the neceſſities of his family obliged him to ſell for a mere trifle:—Therefore, in conſideration of the premiſes, prays, that the Houſe would grant him pay, and depreciation of pay, as if the ſentence of the Court Martial had never paſſed againſt him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt that part of the Bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the poor laws of this Commonwealth*," which is intended to re-incorporate the ſaid townſhip with the city of *Philadelphia*, the northern liberties, *&c.* for the ſupport of the Houſe of Employment for poor of the ſaid city, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Letter from the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council with its incloſures, read this forenoon, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Orth*, Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *J. Ralſton*, Mr. *Montgomery*, and Mr. *Ritchie*, to report thereon.

The Letter from the Chief Juſtice, read *March* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kuhl*, Mr. *Eyre*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, and Mr. *Harris* be a committee to report thereon.

The Petition of divers privates, late of the 8th *Pennſylvania* regiment, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Finlay*, and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

The Petitions of divers inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this Commonwealth, relating to the public highways, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Engle*, Mr. *Humphreys*, Mr. *R. Clark*, Mr. *Dale*, and Mr. *M'Dowel*, to report thereon.

The Memorial of the Preſident and Directors of the Bank of *North America*, read yeſterday forenoon, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe cannot admit the ſaid Memorialiſts to be heard by themſelves or Counſel, as a matter of right, the conſtitutional and regular modes of addreſſing the General Aſſembly on any ſubject being by petition, memorial, or remonſtrance only;—any other way is wholly dependent on the diſcretion of the Houſe, who may, in caſes of great importance, and where it doth not interfere with other buſineſs, if they ſee meet, indulge petitioners in hearing them perſonally, or by their Counſel.

Reſolved, That as the Bill alluded to in the ſaid Memorial, pending before this Houſe, involves the intereſts of many individuals, and is moreover of great national concern, the prayer of the aforeſaid Memorial to be heard by

Counſel be granted, and that Monday next, the 5th *September*, be aſſigned for that purpoſe,—provided that not more than one Counſel be heard.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for regulating the meaſurement of Corn and Salt " imported into the Port of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned till Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 1, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the proprietors of Rope-walks in the vicinity of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, That, by the meaſures of *Great Britain* and other foreign powers, their buſineſs has been extremely injured; that numbers of perſons, formerly engaged therein, whoſe labour has hitherto ſupported them decently, are now reduced to the neceſſity of applying to the petitioners for charity; that they think the duty of 2½ *per cent.* on foreign cordage, propoſed to be laid by a Bill publiſhed for conſideration, inadequate; that the Legiſlature of *New-York* lately impoſed a duty of eight ſhillings *per cwt.* on all foreign cordage, and granted the bounty of one penny *per lb.* on all hemp raiſed within that State; that a ſimilar duty and bounty here would render the aforeſaid manufacture a ſtaple commodity: Therefore praying the Houſe would take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a Bill, entitled, " *A " Supplement to the act entitled,* " An act for erecting and opening a Loan " Office for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds," and for other purpoſes there- " in mentioned;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe took up the Bill entitled, " *An act concerning Divorces and Alimony,*" and having debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for confirming a road, and eſtabliſhing a ferry, " and erecting a Bridge acroſs the* Neſhaminy *Creek,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 2, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of *Rye* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, ſtating divers mal-practices by *David Engliſh* Eſq. in the execution of his office, as a Juſtice of the peace for the ſaid county, was read, together with ſeveral depoſitions incloſed, and praying that he may be removed from his office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for a third reading of the Bill entitled, " *An act to encourage and protect the Manufactures of this State, by " laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which in- " terfere with them,*" be poſtponed.

A Petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, was read, remonſtrating againſt aboliſhing or repealing the charter of the Bank of *North America*, and praying the ſame may be upheld as an inſtitution of general utility.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for the better regulation of the public Squares,* " *Streets, Lanes, Alleys, Stairs, Wharfs, common Sewers, and water courſes* " *in the city of* Philadelphia, *and diſtricts of the Northern Liberties and* South- " wark, *and for ſupplying ſeveral deficiencies in the laws heretofore made for that* " *purpoſe; and for the regulation of the private Buildings, Wharfs, Lots, and* " *Fences in ſaid city and diſtricts, and to declare divers new Streets and ways o-* " *pened, and to be opened and laid out, within the ſaid city and diſtricts, to be* " *Highways; and alſo to declare nuiſances by Buildings within the Streets of ſaid* " *city, removeable; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That it be tranſmitted to the Judges of the Supreme Court for their opinion thereon.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 30th laſt, on the Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a Bill, entitled, " *An* " *act for the immediate Sale of the Lot of Ground in the city of* Philadelphia, " *whereon the Old Goal and Work-Houſe lately ſtood,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *A Supplement to the act entitled,* " An act for erect- " ing and opening a Loan Office for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds, and " for other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

THE incloſed papers have been received from General *Irvin* this day.—As they correſpond with the ideas of Council on the ſubject of the donation lands, and expreſs the ſentiments of ſo very reſpectable a body of gentlemen, it is thought proper that they ſhould be directly tranſmitted to the General Aſſembly, from whom, it is not doubted, but they will obtain an immediate and juſt attention.—I have the honour to be, with great eſteem,

Sir, your moſt obedient humble Servant,

September 2d, 1785. JOHN DICKINSON.

The honourable the Speaker.

And the ſeveral papers incloſed were alſo read.

A Letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

S I R,

IT appears to Council, that *Elizabeth Dodſon*, whoſe petition is incloſed, ought to receive aſſiſtance from the State, and that the General Aſſembly is moſt competent to afford her relief.——I am, with much eſteem,

Sir, your moſt obedient humble Servant,

The honourable the Speaker. JOHN DICKINSON.

And the papers incloſed were alſo read.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to regulate the General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds* " *therein*," and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 3, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th laſt, reſpecting the *Indian* trade, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for the immediate ſale of the Lot of Ground in* " *the city of* Philadelphia, *whereon the old Gaol and Work-Houſe ſtood*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to regulate the General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds there-* " *in*," and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A Memorial from a committee of the citizens of *Philadelphia*, was read, referring to certain reſolutions entered into by the ſaid citizens at a town meeting held reſpecting the declining ſtate of the Trade and Manufactures of the United States,—and praying this Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration, as well as the collecting of the taxes from the defaulting parts of this State, that thereby every citizen may be compelled to contribute his proportion to the exigencies of government.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, September 5, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* and liberties, was read, praying to be heard by Counſel in ſupport of their petitions preſented to the Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, ſetting forth the evils which flow from the Bank eſtabliſhed in the ſaid city, *&c.* and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the aforeſaid Petition be granted, and that when the Counſel in behalf of the Bank ſhall have concluded, one Counſel on the part of the ſaid petitioners be heard.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for the third reading of the Bill entitled, " *An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled*, " An act to " incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of *North-America*," alſo one other

act

aćt entitled, "*An aćt for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting the common* "*ſeal, Bank bills, and Bank notes of the Preſident, Direćtors, and Company of* "*the Bank of* North-America," be poſtponed, in order to hear the Counſel for and againſt the ſaid Bank.

The Preſident of the Bank appearing at the bar of the Houſe, was notified by the Speaker, That, agreeably to the reſolution of the 31ſt *Auguſt* laſt, the Houſe were now ready to hear ſuch Counſel as the corporation of the Bank might adduce in their behalf; in anſwer to which the ſaid Preſident informed the Speaker that *James Wilſon* Eſq. was appointed by ſaid corporation for that purpoſe; whereupon

The ſaid Counſel making his appearance at the bar of the Houſe, began his argument in favour of the ſaid corporation; but not having time to finiſh before the uſual hour of adjourning, the further hearing thereof was poſtponed until the afternoon.

Jonathan Dickinſon Sergeant Eſq. Counſel for the petitioners againſt the Bank, attended during the aforeſaid argument.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The hearing the Counſel in behalf of the corporation of the Bank, was reſumed and compleated.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday September 6, 1785: A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Jonathan Dickinſon Sergeant, Eſq. Counſel in behalf of the Petitioners againſt the corporation of the Bank, began his argument in ſupport of the allegations of the ſaid Petitioners,—and, after a conſiderable time ſpent therein, compleated the ſame.

Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enaćted into laws, and the Speaker direćted to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An aćt for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protećtion of the north-weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes.

An aćt for confirming a road, and eſtabliſhing a ferry, and erećting a bridge acroſs the *Neſhaminy* creek.

An aćt to enable the honourable *Edward Shippen* Eſq. and *John Swift* Eſq. the only ſurviving truſtees now reſident within this State, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey, and aſſure a certain Meſſuage and Lot of Ground in the city of *Philadelphia*, commonly called the *Maſon's Lodge*, and to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein mentioned.

A Letter from the honourable *Charles Pettit* Eſq. one of the delegates repreſenting this State in the Congreſs of theUnited States, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, were read, ſetting forth, That they had marked the progreſs of the Bill for vacating the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, in the courſe of the laſt ſeſſions, with ſilent regret, but ſtill with hopes that it would not be reſumed in the preſent; that theſe hopes however have been fruſtrated, and now perceiving it advancing to its laſt ſtage, they deem it unjuſt to themſelves and prejudicial to their country longer to withhold the public avowal of their ſentiments upon it.

That the enemies of the Bank have employed a great deal of abſtracted reaſoning to ſhew the miſchievous nature and tendency of ſuch inſtitutions, in contradiction to all experience and practical knowledge, which abundantly teſtifies the utility of ſuch inſtitutions, wherever they have had place, as well with reſpect to the commercial and political intereſts of a country, as to the improvement of its agriculture.

They alſo obſerve, that to regard too lightly the public faith, once pledged, is greatly to injure our national character.

The charter which a former Houſe of Aſſembly thought it patriotiſm to beſtow, is not pretended to be abuſed; that as there are no evils attending the inſtitution of the Bank now actually exiſting, they can conceive of none in future, unleſs it be thoſe poſſible ones to grow out of duration unlimited, and a capital too extenſive,—and which, if a cauſe of real apprehenſion, they conceive, may be obviated without committing the faith of government, or involving the abſolute deſtruction of the inſtitution: Therefore pray, that no further proceedings may be had on the ſaid Bill.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Preſident of the Bank appeared at the bar, and requeſted permiſſion to be heard by Counſel in anſwer to ſuch new matters as had been adduced by the Counſel in behalf of the petitioners againſt the corporation of the Bank,—which was accordingly granted; whereupon Mr. *Wilſon*, Counſel for the Bank, proceeded in his reply,—and having concluded, Mr. *Sergeant*, Counſel for the aforeſaid petitioners, was permitted to rejoin, and conclude the argument.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 7, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

S I R, *September* 3, 1785.

THE incloſed letters from the Secretary of Congreſs, with their incloſures of the 24th of *Auguſt*, have been lately received, and it is judged proper by Council, that they ſhould be immediately laid before the General Aſſembly.——I have the honour to be, with high eſteem,

Sir, your moſt obedient humble Servant,

JOHN DICKINSON.

The honourable the Speaker.

And the ſeveral papers incloſed were alſo read.

A repreſentation from the honourable the Juſtices of the Supreme Court and the members of the Grand Inqueſt in the laſt Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol delivery, holden for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſtating, That the conſtitution of this commonwealth directs that "the penal laws formerly uſed ſhould be reformed by the Legiſlature "as ſoon as may be, and puniſhments in ſome caſes made leſs ſanguinary and "in general more proportionate to crimes," *&c.* and ſuggeſting, whether if even robberies, burglaries, and moſt of the other nefarious violations of law (treaſons and murders excepted) were puniſhed by hard labour, publicly and diſgracefully impoſed on perſons convicted of them, for the firſt offence, not only in the manner pointed out by the Convention, but in ſtreets, cities, and towns, and upon the highways of the open country, and other public works, might not probably, whilſt it tends to reform the culprits and preſerve life, alſo leſſen the number of offenders, by proving a ſeaſonable warning and durable example to others: Therefore praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *David Mead* Eſq. was read, ſetting forth, That about fifteen years ago he purchaſed from, and under the government of, *Pennſylvania*, a tract of land at *Wyoming*; that, after the decree at *Trenton*, and previous to his ſettling thereon, the perſons claiming the ſame under *Connecticut* relinquiſhed their claim thereto in the moſt formal and quiet manner; that when he was appointed to execute the office of a Juſtice of the peace in that country, he thought it his duty to remove and ſettle there, and made conſiderable improvements; that in the year 1784 diſorders commenced, when he endeavoured, by every legal means in his power, to prevent irregularities and eſtabliſh peace and good order; that in *May* laſt he was inſtructed by a committee of this Houſe, to continue in the execution of his office as long as poſſible, and to endeavour, by all prudent means in his power, to prevent further irregularities, and promote obedience to the laws of the State; that, in full confidence of the ſupport of government and the immediate eſtabliſhment of the laws, he has uniformly endeavoured, by every poſſible means, to reſtore the peace of that diſtracted country, thus ſubjecting himſelf to very conſiderable expences from time to time, until, by a lawleſs banditti of uſurpers, he has been compelled to abandon his property and poſſeſſions: Therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Sarah Baſely* was read, ſetting forth, That, placing full confidence in the Bills of Credit emitted by the Legiſlature in *April* 1776 and *March* 1777, did receive, in the courſe of her buſineſs, about four hundred pounds, and, to her great diſtreſs and almoſt ruin, hath this ſum now lying uſeleſs by her: Therefore praying this Houſe to take her peculiar caſe into conſideration, and afford her relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *John Derrick*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the Truſtees of the public ſchool of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, That the act paſſed for incorporating the ſubſcribers to the ſaid inſtitution is defective in ſeveral particulars, and praying leave to bring in a Bill ſupplementary to the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Nicholas Reib*, late of the corps of Artificers in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſtating divers grievances he labours under, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 281 of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were ſeverally read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled, "*An act to enable* "*to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county of* Bucks, *and* "*to ſell the old Court Houſe and Priſon at* Newtown," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *September* 2, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council of the 29th of *Auguſt* laſt, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

1. *Reſolved*, That it is the opinion of this Houſe, that the law made for the diſtribution of the donation lands hath veſted the Supreme Executive Council with ſufficient powers to adjuſt every matter complained of by the Agent appointed under the ſaid law.

2. *Reſolved*, That this Houſe can do nothing in the caſe of *William Pollard*, as it would be interfering with the Courts of Juſtice, who have cognizance thereof.

3. *Reſolved*, That Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *J. Clark*, and Mr. *R. Ralſton* be a committee to bring in a Bill, providing that the intereſt due on the certificate for the depreciation of the pay of captain *James Irvine*, late of the ſtate navy, now a priſoner with the *Algerines*, be paid to his wife *Deborah* during his abſence, any thing contained in the act requiring an oath of non-alienation to be taken by the party previous to his receiving intereſt to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The report relative to the *Indian* trade, read *September* 3, was read the ſecond time, whereupon

Reſolved, That it is ſound policy not only to allow, but to encourage the citizens of this State to trade with the *Indians*, as a ſource of wealth, and as the beſt means of acquiring and maintaining the friendſhip of the ſaid *Indians*, and of counteracting the deſigns of the *Britiſh*, who are uſing every endeavour to excite and combine them againſt the United States, and are taking meaſures to engroſs to themſelves their trade; thereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *M'Pherſon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Mr. *A. Smith* be a committee to bring in a Bill to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to grant licences, under proper regulations, to trade with the *Indians*.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt laſt, on the ſeveral petitions praying an exemption from the payment of the intereſt due to the State on the purchaſe money for lands, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 30th laſt, on the report of the committee appointed to proceed to *Wyoming*, &c. &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to* "*regulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds* "*therein*," and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed on the petition of *Elibabeth Kutz*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to re-*

" *gulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds* " *therein,*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 8, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That to-morrow be aſſigned to elect a Truſtee of the General Loan Office in the room of *Joſeph Dean* Eſq. who hath reſigned.

The Petition of *David Mead* Eſq. read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Coats,* Mr. *Erwin,* Mr. *Frazer,* Mr. *R. Craig,* and Mr. *Lilly* to report thereon.

A Petition from *John Roſs,* late a ſailing maſter in the navy of this State, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* read *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The Petition of *Daniel Griffith,* read *Auguſt* 26th laſt; was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the ſeveral petitions praying an exemption from the payment of the intereſt due to the State on the purchaſe money for lands, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report, read yeſterday, on the report of the committee appointed to proceed to *Wyoming,* &c. was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe do adopt the following inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this State in the Congreſs of the United States, *viz.*

GENTLEMEN,

" THIS State has, for many years paſt, been greatly embarraſſed and diſturbed by a number of people ſettling within the chartered bounds thereof; theſe ſettlers ſet up a claim of property under the ſuppoſed juriſdiction of *Connecticut,* and a purchaſe alledged to be made by a company ſtiling themſelves the *Suſquehanna* and *Delaware* company from the *Indians.*

" This preſent Aſſembly ſincerely wiſhing to put an end to further diſorders, did, in *April* laſt, appoint their Speaker and two other members " to " repair to *Wyoming,* and make ſuch enquiry as to them ſhould appear neceſ- " ſary for the peace and good order of the people, and the regular admini- " ſtration of juſtice, and report thereon to this Houſe at their next ſeſſion."

" We now furniſh you with their report, together with the papers on which that report is founded, and inſtruct you to lay the ſame before Congreſs.

" We requeſt you to urge in Congreſs an immediate deciſion of this important queſtion, " Whether the perſons claiming lands under the *Suſque-* " *hanna* company, or whatever their claims may be, within the bounds of " this State, have, or have not, a right to a trial (as to the right of ſoil) by " a Federal Court, agreeably to the articles of the confederation ?"

Reſolved, That a copy of the above inſtructions, and other papers relating thereto, be tranſmitted to our Delegates in Congreſs—Thereupon

A member preſented to the chair a motion reſpecting the diſorders at *Wyoming*, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to appoint Truſtees to purchaſe a piece of Land within deſcribed bounds, and thereon to erect a Court Houſe and Priſon for the uſe of the county of* Weſtmoreland," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Lower Merion,* in the county of *Montgomery,* was read, praying that they may hold their annual elections at the Court Houſe in and for the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 27th laſt, on the letter from the Governor of *Virginia,* relative to the laying out a road through this State, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act to eſtabliſh a ferry from the ſouth-weſt ſide of the* Monongahela, *oppoſite the town of* Pittſburgh," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to regulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,*" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And the elections for the county of *Cheſter,* which for that purpoſe ſhall be divided into three diſtricts, ſhall be holden at three places, *viz.* The freemen of the townſhips of *Cheſter, Upper-Chicheſter, Lower-Chicheſter, Bethel, Aſhtown, Concord, Middletown, Thornbury, Birmingham, Nether-Providence, Upper-Providence, Ridley, Marple, Springfield, Derby, Haverford, Newtown, Edgemont, Williſtown, Radnor,* and *Tinicum,* being the firſt diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the town of *Cheſter.*—The freemen of the townſhips of *London-Grove, Eaſt-Marlborough, Weſt-Marlborough, Kennet, Pennſbury, Newlin, New-Garden, London-Britain, New-London, Londonderry, Eaſt-Nottingham, Weſt-Nottingham, Oxford, Eaſt-Fallowfield, Weſt-Fallowfield,* and *Sadſbury,* being the ſecond diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at *Chatham,* formerly called the *Half-way Houſe.*—And the freemen of the townſhips of *Eaſt-Caln, Weſt-Caln, Eaſt-Bradford, Weſt-Bradford, Charleſtown, Tredyffrin, Uwchland, Pikeland, Vincent, Coventry, Eaſt-Whiteland, Weſt-Whiteland, Eaſt-Nantmell, Weſt-Nantmell, Eaſt-Town, Weſt-Town,* and *Goſhen,* ſhall hold their elections at the *Red Lion,* in the townſhip of *Uwchland.*"

It was moved, and ſeconded, to ſtrike out the aforeſaid clauſe, in order to inſert the following in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Sect. 7. " And the elections for the county of *Cheſter,* which for that purpoſe ſhall be divided into four diſtricts, ſhall be holden at four places, *viz.* The freemen of the townſhips of *Cheſter, Upper Chicheſter, Lower Chicheſter, Bethel, Aſhtown, Concord, Middletown, Thornbury, Birmingham, Nether-Providence, Upper-Providence, Ridley, Marple, Springfield, Darby, Haverford, Newtown, Edgemont, Radnor, Eaſtown,* and *Tinicum,* being the firſt diſtrict, ſhall hold their Elections at the town of *Cheſter.* The freemen of the townſhips of

London-Grove, *Eaſt-Marlborough*, *Weſt-Marlborough*, *Kennet*, *Pennſbury*, *New-Garden*, *London-Britain*, *New-London*, *Londonderry*, *Eaſt-Nottingham*, *Weſt-Nottingham*, *Oxford*, and *Weſt-Fallowfield*, being the ſecond diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at *Chatham*, formerly called the Half-way-Houſe. The freemen of the Townſhips of *Weſt-Whiteland*, *Eaſt-Caln*, *Weſt-Caln*, *Weſt-Nantmell*, *Eaſt-Bradford*, *Weſt-Bradford*, *Newlin*, *Eaſt-Fallowfield*, and *Sadſbury*; being the third diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the ſign of the *Pennſylvania Arms*, at the houſe of *John Culbertſon* eſquire, in the ſaid townſhip of *Eaſt-Caln*. The freemen of the townſhips of *Charleſtown*, *Tredyffrin*, *Uwchland*, *Pikeland*, *Vincent*, *Coventry*, *Eaſt-Nantmell*, *Eaſt-Whiteland*, *Goſhen*, *Weſt-Town*, and *Williſtown*, being the fourth diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the   in the townſhip of   aforeſaid."

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Frazer*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *Joſeph Thomas*,
10. *Arthur Erwin*,
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
12. *Perſifor Frazer*,
13. *John Craig*,
14. *Adam Orth*,
15. *James Porter*,
16. *David Jenkins*,
17. *Robert Craig*,
18. *Robert Clark*,
19. *Frederick Watts*,
20. *John Harris*,
21. *Robert Whitehill*,
22. *David Davis*,
23. *Philip Kreemer*,
24. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
25. *Peter Burkhalter*,
26. *Jonas Hartzel*,
27. *John Ralſton*,
28. *Frederick Antes*,
29. *Daniel Montgomery*,
30. *Samuel Dale*,
31. *William Finlay*,
32. *William Todd*,
33. *Thomas Morton*,
34. *John M'Dowell*,
35. *John Smiley*,
36. *Abraham Smith*,
37. *James M'Calmont*.
38. *Robert Loller*,
39. *George Smith*,
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Elias Boys*,
2. *John Keller*,
3. *Richard Willing*,
4. *Edward Jones*,
5. *Robert Ralſton*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
8. *Henry Miller*,
9. *John Hay*,
10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*.
12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *Abraham Lincoln*,
16. *Henry Spyker*,
17. *Robert Brown*,
18. *Robert Cluggage*,
19. *Matthew Ritchie*,
20. *James Johnſton*,
21. *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Whereupon, it was moved, and ſeconded, to fill up the blanks in the clauſe adopted as follows, *viz.* the firſt with the words "*The Yellow Springs*," and the latter with the word "*Pikeland*," and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Frazer*, are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *James Vanſant*.
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *Thomas Long*,
7. *John Clark*,
8. *Joſeph Thomas*,
9. *Arthur Erwin*,
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
11. *Perſifor Frazer*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *John Harris*,
18. *Robert Whitehill*,
19. *David Davis*,
20. *Peter Burkhalter*,
21. *Jonas Hartzel*,
22. *John Ralſton*,
23. *Frederick Antes*,
24. *Daniel Montgomery*,
25. *Samuel Dale*,
26. *William Todd*,
27. *John M'Dowell*,
28. *John Smiley*,
29. *Abraham Smith*,
30. *James M'Calmont*,
31. *George Smith*,
32. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*.
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *John Keller*,
4. *Richard Willing*,
5. *Edward Jones*,
6. *Robert Ralſton*,
7. *Charles Humphreys*,
8. *John Craig*,
9. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
10. *Henry Miller*,
11. *John Hay*,
12. *Philip Gartner*,
13. *James Ewing*,
14. *David M'Conaughy*,
15. *Henry Tyſon*,
16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *Henry Spyker*,
19. *Philip Kreemer*,
20. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
21. *Robert Brown*,
22. *Robert Cluggage*,
23. *William Finlay*,
24. *Thomas Morton*,
25. *Matthew Ritchie*,
26. *James Johnſton*,
27. *Peter Richards*,
21. *Robert Loller*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid Bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 9, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Truſtee of the General Loan Office of this commonwealth, in the room of *Joſeph Dean* eſquire, who hath reſigned; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Rowland Evans*, eſquire, was duly elected; whereupon

The Bill entitled, "*A ſupplement to the act, entitled*, " An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office, for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the Epiſcopal congregation of St. *Peter's* church in the great valley and county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying that the ſaid congregation may be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Thomas Robinſon* was read, ſetting forth, That, during his command on the frontiers of the county of *Northumberland*, he frequently advanced monies to the ſoldiers under his command, the account of which hath been liquidated by the Comptroller General; and as no fund is appropriated for the payment thereof, therefore prays this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to regulate the General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,*" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And the elections for the county of *Lancaſter*, which, for that purpoſe, ſhall be divided into four diſtricts, ſhall be holden at four places, *viz.* The freemen of the borough of *Lancaſter*, and of the townſhips of *Lancaſter*, *Leacock*, *Warwick*, *Manheim*, *Hempfield*, *Manor*, *Coneſtogo*, and *Lampeter*, being the firſt diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the Court Houſe in the borough of *Lancaſter*:—the freemen of the townſhips of *Little Britain*, *Drumore*, *Bart*, *Coleraine*, *Martick*, *Straſburgh*, and *Sadſbury*, being the ſecond diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the houſe of colonel *James Porter* in *Drumore* townſhip: the freemen of the townſhips of *Raphoe*, *Donegal*, and *Mountjoy*, being the third diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the *Croſs-Roads* in *Donegal* townſhip: and the freemen of the townſhips of *Carnarvon*, *Brecknock*, *Earle*, *Cocalico*, *Elizabeth*, and *Bethel*, being the fourth diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at *New Holland*."

It was moved, and ſeconded, to ſtrike out the aforeſaid paragraph, and in lieu thereof to inſert,

"And in order to advance the purity and certainty of election, the borough and townſhip of *Lancaſter*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, ſhall be allowed and ſhall elect one repreſentative in the General Aſſembly for the ſame borough and townſhip excluſively, (although from the number of taxables therein the ſame is not fully entitled thereto) and the election of the ſaid borough and townſhip ſhall be holden at the Court Houſe in the ſaid county, and the return of the election of the ſame borough and townſhip as to repreſentation in Aſſembly only, ſhall be made ſeparately and diſtinctly from other diſtricts in the ſaid county, by the judges of election of the ſame borough and townſhip, and the electors reſiding within the ſame borough and townſhip ſhall not, on any pretence of property, or any other wiſe, be entitled to vote in any of the other diſtricts of the ſaid county, nor ſhall they have any concurrency in the choice of the ſix other repreſentatives of ſaid county."

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Coats*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Coats.*
3. *Perſifor Frazer,*
4. *James Porter,*
5. *Robert Clark,*

YEAS.

6. *Frederick Watts,*
7. *Frederick Antes,*
8. *Samuel Dale,*
9. *John Smiley,*
10. *Abraham Smith.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *Thomas Long,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *John Keller,*
9. *Richard Willing,*
10. *Edward Jones,*
11. *Robert Ralſton,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Charles Humphreys,*
14. *John Craig,*
15. *Adam Orth,*
16. *David Jenkins,*
17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert M'Pherſon.*
19. *Henry Miller,*
20. *John Hay,*
21. *Philip Gartner.*
22. *James Ewing,*
23. *David M'Conaughy,*
24. *Henry Tyſon,*

NAYS.

25. *Joſeph Lilly,*
26. *Robert Whitehill,*
27. *Nicholas Lutz,*
28. *Abraham Lincoln,*
29. *Henry Spyker,*
30. *David Davis,*
31. *Philip Kreemer,*
32. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
33. *Peter Burkhalter,*
34. *Robert Brown,*
35. *Jonas Hartzel,*
36. *John Ralſton,*
37. *Robert Cluggage,*
38. *Daniel Montgomery,*
39. *William Todd,*
40. *Thomas Morton,*
41. *Matthew Ritchie,*
42. *John M'Dowell,*
43. *James Johnſton,*
44. *James M'Calmont,*
45. *Peter Richards,*
46. *Robert Loller,*
47. *George Smith,*
48. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

A member then offered a ſubſtitute to the original paragraph, which being conſidered was adopted.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ And the elections for the county of *Waſhington*, which, for that purpoſe, ſhall be divided into four diſtricts, *viz.*—The Freemen of the townſhips of   being the firſt diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at   The Freemen of the townſhips of   being the ſecond diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at   The Freemen of the townſhips of   being the third diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at   And the Freemen of the townſhips of   being the fourth diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at   ”

On the queſtion, “ *Shall the county of* Waſhington, *for the purpoſe of* “ *holding their annual elections, be divided into diſtricts for this year,*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Ritchie* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *John Keller,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Robert Craig,*
10. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
11. *Henry Miller,*
12. *Philip Gartner,*

YEAS.

13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M'Conaughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*
16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *Robert Cluggage,*
18. *William Todd,*
19. *Matthew Ritchie.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *James Vanſant,*
3. *Manuel Eyre,*
4. *William Coats,*
5. *Thomas Long,*
6. *John Clark,*
7. *Joſeph Thomas,*
8. *Perſifor Frazer,*
9. *John Craig,*
10. *Adam Orth,*
11. *James Porter,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Clark,*
14. *Frederick Watts,*
15. *Robert Whitehill,*
16. *Nicholas Lutz,*
17. *Abraham Lincoln,*
18. *Henry Spyker,*
19. *David Davis,*
20. *Philip Kreemer,*
21. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
22. *Peter Burkhalter,*
23. *Robert Brown,*
24. *Jonas Hartzel,*
25. *John Ralſton,*
26. *Frederick Antes,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *Samuel Dale,*
29. *Thomas Morton,*
30. *John M'Dowell,*
31. *John Smiley,*
32. *James Johnſton,*
33. *Abraham Smith,*
34. *James M'Calmont,*
35. *Peter Richards,*
36. *Robert Loller,*
37. *George Smith,*
38. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid Bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned till Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 10, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Jonathan Plumer,* of the county of *Waſhington,* was read, ſetting forth, That, by divers loſſes and misfortunes, he is become unable to pay his debts, and praying this Houſe to grant him a letter of licence for five years to enable him to diſcharge his juſt debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Memorial from *James Parr, Michael Kimmell,* and *John Lauman,* was read, ſetting forth, That in conſequence of paſſes obtained from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of this State, and of the Governor and Council of the State of *New York,* they purchaſed a large aſſortment of merchandize, with deſign to proceed therewith to *Detroit* to trade with the *Indians*; that, upon their arrival at the *Mohawk* river, they were informed they would not be permitted to paſs the *Britiſh* poſts; that, previous to leaving this city, they were obliged to pay the impoſt on their cargo of goods, and afterwards, on their arrival at *New York,* were charged with a ſecond duty; that not being permitted to proceed by the *Britiſh,* and it being out of their power to ſell the goods either for caſh or peltry, they were compelled to return with them to this city, in order to make the beſt terms with their creditors; that, previous to their being permitted to land the goods, they were obliged to give bond

ond at the Cuſtom Houſe for the payment of a third duty, which, if they re compelled to pay, will ſubject them to infinite loſs, and, as they con- eive, manifeſt injuſtice : Therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 8th inſtant, on the petition of *David Mead* Eſq. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a Bill, entitled, “ *An* “ *act to empower* Deborah Irvine *to receive the intereſt upon her huſband* James “ Irvine's *depreciation certificate, during his abſence* ,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and* “ *of gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports, paſtimes, and diſſipation,*” was read the third time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the judges for their opinion.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act for the immediate ſale of the Lot of Ground in* “ *the city of* Philadelphia, *whereon the old Gaol and Work-Houſe lately ſtood,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entitled,* “ An act “ to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of *North America,*” alſo one other act, entitled, “ *An act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of* “ *the common ſeal, Bank bills, and Bank notes of the Preſident, Directors, and* “ *Company of the Bank of* North America, *and for other purpoſes therein men-* “ *tioned,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.—And on the queſtion, “ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*” The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Coats*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *James Vanſant.*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Arthur Erwin,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *John Craig,*
15. *Adam Orth,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Craig,*
19. *Robert Clark,*
20. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
21. *Frederick Watts,*
22. *John Harris,*
23. *Robert Whitehill,*
24. *Nicholas Lutz,*

YEAS.

25. *Abraham Lincoln,*
26. *Henry Spyker,*
27. *David Davis,*
28. *Philip Kreemer,*
29. *Peter Burkhalter,*
30. *Robert Brown,*
31. *Jonas Hartzel,*
32. *John Ralſton,*
33. *Frederick Antes,*
34. *Daniel Montgomery,*
35. *Samuel Dale,*
36. *William Finlay,*
37. *William Todd,*
38. *Thomas Morton,*
39. *John M'Dowell,*
40. *John Smiley,*
41. *James Johnſton,*
42. *Abraham Smith,*
43. *James M'Calmont,*
44. *Peter Richards,*
45. *Robert Loller,*
46. *George Smith,*
47. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Richard Willing,*
2. *Edward Jones,*
3. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
4. *Charles Humphreys,*
5. *Henry Miller,*
6. *Philip Gartner,*

NAYS.

7. *James Ewing,*
8. *David M'Conaughy,*
9. *Henry Tyſon,*
10. *Joſeph Lilly,*
11. *Robert Cluggage,*
12. *Matthew Ritchie.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Bill entitled, " *A ſupplement to the act entitled,* " An act for erecting and opening a Loan Office for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds, and " for other purpoſes therein mentioned," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, September 12, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Benjamin Abbot,* collector of taxes within the townſhip of *Bethel,* in the county of *Bedford,* was read, ſetting forth, That he was robbed of divers ſums of money by him received in payment of taxes, and praying the ſame may be placed to his credit in the ſettlement of his account.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *John Ormſby* of the town of *Pittſburgh,* was read, ſetting forth the inconveniency he labours under by reaſon of his not being entitled to the excluſive right of keeping a ferry at *Pittſburgh,* and praying leave to bring in a Bill for that purpoſe, as well as to regulate the ferry rates.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying that the charter of the Bank of *North America* may not be taken away.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* was read, praying this Houſe to take the preſent ſtate of the manufactures of this commonwealth into conſideration, and by ſuitable regulations to encourage the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland,* were read, praying that the ſeat of juſtice for the ſaid county may not be removed from the town of *Sunbury.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants weſtward of the *Laurel hill,* was read, praying an exemption from the payment of intereſt on the purchaſe money due to this State for lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of this State was read, praying that the act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery may be ſo far modified as to give further time to regiſter negroe ſlaves.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act to appropriate the ſum of* *pounds* " *of the public monies to the laying out and making of highways from the weſtern* " *parts of* Cumberland *county to the town of* Pittſburgh, *and to authorize the* " *Preſident in Council to appoint commiſſioners to lay out the ſame,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to declare and eſtabliſh the conſtitutional rights of the Preſident and Council of this State to draw for the public monies in the hands of the Treaſurer of the commonwealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly ſo far as they are repugnant to the ſame,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to appropriate the ſum of   pounds of the public monies to the laying out and making of highways from the weſtern parts of Cumberland county to the town of* Pittſburgh, *and to authorize the Preſident in Council to appoint commiſſioners to lay out the ſame,*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for the regulation of Bankruptcy,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the Truſtees of the General Loan Office of this commonwealth be permitted to occupy the upper room in the eaſt wing of the *State-Houſe* as an office during the continuance of their appointment.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday September 13, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying an exemption from the payment of intereſt on the purchaſe money due to this State for lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, appointed *March* 29th laſt, on the petition of *Jacob Kentzer,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report, read *September* 7th inſtant, on the petition of *Elizabeth Kutz,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

"The committee to whom was referred the petition of *Elizabeth Kutz,* praying the interference of this Houſe in a claim to three hundred acres of land ituate in *Bethel* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton,* have attended to that buſineſs. taken her complaint into conſideration, and beg leave to report.

"That they are of opinion, that the petitioner's claim is inadmiſſibie, in as much as ſhe enjoys all the lands ſurveyed for her uſe by order of commiſſioners appointed to do juſtice to the ſettlers on the dry lands, without having paid any conſideration, or obtained any office-right for the ſame: that her caſe was tried by jury of the proper county; who, after viewing the lands, were unanimouſly of opinion, that her claim was ill founded. Therefore,

"*Reſolved,* That the interference of this Houſe (where the judicial authority is competent) is improper, and the prayer of the petitioner cannot with propriety be granted."

The report, read *September* 10th inſtant, on the petition of *David Mead* Eſq. was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

"Your committee to whom the petition of *David Mead* eſquire, was referred, beg leave to report, That they have examined the account and claim of the petitioner, and are of opinion that he is juſtly entitled to the ſum of £102-0-3. for his extraordinary ſervices and the expences that have accrued to him, in giving intelligence to government reſpecting the affairs at *Wyoming*.

“ That his account of loſs ſuſtained by reaſon of his attachment to this government, and endeavouring to reduce the ſettlers there to a proper ſenſe of their duty to the ſame, we cannot at preſent admit, but refer him for relief to ſome future time. We therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

“ *Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed to bring in a Bill empowering the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the treaſury of this State for pounds, in favour of *David Mead* Eſq. for his ſervices at *Wyoming*.”

Ordered, That Mr. *Coats*, Mr. *Frazer*, Mr. *Erwin*, Mr. *R. Craig*, and Mr. *Lilly* be a committee to bring in a Bill conformably to the foregoing Reſolution.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Thurſday next be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the Bill entitled, “ *An act to encourage and protect the manafactures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them.*”

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, “ *An act for the regulation of Bankruptcy*,” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared al the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz*.

An act to regulate the General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein.

An act to repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, “ *An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North America,” alſo one other act, entitled, “ *An act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the Common Seal, Bank Bills, and Bank Notes of the Preſident, Directors, and Company of the Bank of* North America, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*.”

An act for the immediate ſale of the lot of ground in the city of *Philadelphia*, whereon the old Goal add Work-Houſe ſtood.

An act to appoint truſtees to purchaſe a piece of land, within deſcribed bounds, and thereon to erect a Court-Houſe and Priſon for the uſe of the county of *Weſtmoreland*.

An act for declaring the acts of Aſſembly, which give the authority of Juſtices of the peace to the chief burgeſs of the borough of *Lancaſter*, and to the burgeſſes of the boroughs of *Carliſle* and *Reading*, to be ſo far contrary to the Conſtitution, and to repeal the ſame acts ſo far as they contradict the Conſtitution.

A member preſented to the chair a Bill entitled, “ *A Supplement to the act entitled*, “ An act to provide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land Office, and in the ſurveying of lands,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act to enable to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the Court Houſe and Priſon in the town of* Sunbury,” was read the third time, and on the queſtion, “ *Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs?*

It was determined in the negative.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker be directed by letters to require the

Collector of impoſts to tranſmit to this Houſe, as ſoon as may be, a ſtate of the duties on impoſt.

Adjourned until Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Memorial and Petition from divers non-reſident holders of land in the townſhips of *Wyoming*, *Stoke*, and *Shawanee*, poſſeſſed by, and contiguous to the ſettlements of the *Connecticut* claimants, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, That they are deprived of the free uſe and enjoyment of their property, by reaſon of the uſurpation and actual poſſeſſion of a number of men who aſſert their claims to the ſoil from an authority foreign to the government of this State, denying all right founded in the ſame; therefore praying an exoneration of all taxes now due, or that may be laid upon the premiſes, until the re-eſtabliſhment of the civil authority, and the ſurrender of the before mentioned property.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Petition of *Benjamin Abbot*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the commiſſioners of the county of *Bedford*, who, in conjunction with one of the repreſentatives for the ſaid county, ſhall hear the evidence touching the robbery ſaid to have been committed, and report thereon to the next General Aſſembly.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of* "*this State in the ſervice of the United States, who were deranged by the reſolu*-"*tion of Congreſs paſſed the fourth day of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and* "*ſeventy-eight*," was read the third time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz*.

"*Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame*, That the Comptroller General of this State be, and he is hereby empowered to ſettle and adjuſt the depreciation of the pay of the officers ſo deranged as aforeſaid, during their continuance in the army of the United States, and to give the ſaid officers certificates for the ſame."

It was moved to inſert after the word "*aforeſaid*," the words "*and of* "*the privates of the eighth battalion of* Pennſylvania, *who ſerved three years*, "*and were honourably diſcharged, previous to the enacting of the law granting* "*the reimburſing depreciation*."

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Finlay* and Mr. *Woods*, are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl*,
2. *William Will*,
3. *James Vanſant*,
4. *Manuel Eyre*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *Arthur Erwin*,
7. *Perſifor Frazer*,
8. *Robert Clark*,
9. *Henry Miller*,
10. *James Ewing*.
11. *David McConaughy*,
12. *Joſeph Lilly*,

YEAS.

13. *Nicholas Lutz*,
14. *George Woods*,
15. *Robert Cluggage*,
16. *Daniel Montgomery*,
17. *William Finlay*,
18. *William Todd*,
19. *Thomas Morton*,
20. *John McDowell*,
21. *John Smiley*,
22. *Peter Richards*,
23. *George Smith*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Thomas Long,*
3. *John Clark,*
4. *Joſeph Thomas,*
5. *John Keller,*
6. *Edward Jones,*
7. *Robert Ralſton,*
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
9. *Charles Humphreys,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *James Porter,*
13. *David Jenkins,*
14. *Robert Craig,*
15. *Robert M‘Pherſon,*
16. *Philip Gartner,*
17. *Henry Tyſon,*
18. *Frederick Watts,*
19. *Robert Whitehill,*
20. *Abraham Lincoln,*
21. *Henry Spyker,*
22. *David Davis,*
23. *Philip Kreemer,*
24. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25. *Peter Burkhalter,*
26. *Robert Brown,*
27. *Jonas Hartzel,*
28. *John Ralſton,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*
30. *Samuel Dale,*
31. *James Johnſton,*
32. *James M‘Calmont,*
33. *Robert Loller,*
34. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative. Whereupon

On the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the original clauſe?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Will,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats.*
6. *Thomas Long,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *Charles Humphreys,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *Robert Clark,*
13. *Henry Miller,*
14. *Philip Gartner.*
15. *James Ewing,*
16. *David M'Conaughy,*
17. *Joſeph Lilly,*
18. *Nicholas Lutz,*
19. *George Woods.*
20. *Robert Cluggage,*
21. *William Todd,*
22. *Thomas Morton,*
23. *John Smiley.*
24. *Peter Richards,*
25. *Robert Loller,*
26. *George Smith,*
27. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Joſeph Thomas,*
3. *John Keller,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *John Craig,*
7. *James Porter,*
8. *David Jenkins,*
9. *Robert Craig,*
10. *Robert M'Pherſon.*
11. *Henry Tyſon,*
12. *Frederick Watts,*
13. *Robert Whitehill,*
14. *Abraham Lincoln,*
15. *Henry Spyker,*
16. *David Davis,*
17. *Philip Kreemer,*
18. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
19. *Peter Burkhalter,*
20. *Robert Brown,*
21. *Jonas Hartzel,*
22. *John Ralſton,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*
24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *Samuel Dale,*
26. *John M'Dowell,*
27. *James Johnſton,*
28. *James M'Calmont.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 14, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Memorial and Remonſtrance from the managers elected by the contributors to the relief and employment of the poor in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the granting the prayer of the petitions from the overſeers of the poor, and from the inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* townſhip; and praying the Bill, entitled, "*A Supplement to poor laws of this commonwealth*," may be paſſed into a law, with ſuch amendments as are ſtated in the ſaid Memorial.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon, on motion, *Ordered*, That *Monday* next be aſſigned to take up for a third reading the Bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the poor laws of this* "*Commonwealth*."

On motion, *Ordered*, That fifteen hundred copies *extra* of "The act for "regulating the General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent "frauds therein," be printed, 1000 thereof in the Engliſh, and the remaining 500 in the German language.

The report of the committee, read *Sept*. 7th, relative to the exoneration of the intereſt due on the purchaſe money for lands, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the* "*State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of* "*the ſaid ſeminary,—and for enabling the Board of Truſtees af the ſaid Univer-* "*ſity to chooſe a new Truſtee in the ſtead of any of their number (not being a* "*Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the* "*ſaid corporation for one year*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned to debate the ſame by paragraphs.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, "*An* "*act to enable the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer* "*of this State for the ſum of* *in favour of* David Mead *eſquire*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the committee appointed, *December* 7, to ſuperintend ſuch repairs as may be neceſſary to be made to the *State Houſe*, &c. be inſtructed to report the ſtate of the ſame.

Adjourned till Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Willing*, and Mr. *Loller* be a committee to draught a congratulatory addreſs to the honourable *Benjamin Franklin* eſquire, late Miniſter Plenipotentiary from the United States of *America* to the Court of *France*, on his ſafe arrival in this city.

The Petition of *Thomas Robinſon*, read *Septemter* 9th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts to report thereon.

The Petition of the Epiſcopal congregation of St. *Peter's* church in the Great Valley, in the county of *Cheſter*, read *September* 9th inſtant, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to* "*compel the ſpeedy ſettlement, and paying or ſecuring of the debts due to this*

“ *State for lands held by location or other office right, obtained before the tenth*
“ *day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and yet remain-*
“ *ing unpatented* ;” and in debating the ſame, on the queſtion, “ *Will the*
“ *Houſe adopt the following paragraph ?*” viz.

“ And whereas the ſettlers upon the lands beyond the *Alleghany* mountains have been very great ſufferers by the ravages of the *Indians* during the late war, and thereby for many years have been prevented from the cultivation of the land poſſeſſed by them ; and it is reaſonable, that, during the term of the ſaid war, the intereſt accruing upon the purchaſe-money due and payable as aforeſaid, to all actual ſettlers on the lands lying and being north-weſtward of the ſame mountain, ſhould be exonerated. *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all actual ſettlers upon lands ſituated on the weſt ſide of the *Alleghany* mountains as aforeſaid ſhall be exonerated and acquitted of intereſt accruing as aforeſaid, from the firſt of *January* one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and the firſt day of *January,* which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four, provided they reſpectively pay or ſecure the purchaſe-money of the lands by them ſeverally claimed in in the manner and within the time herein before mentioned.”

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smiley* and Mr. *Ritchie*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *William Will,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *Joſeph Thomas,*
6. *Perſifor Frazer,*
7. *Adam Orth,*
8. *James Porter,*
9. *Robert Clark,*
10. *John Harris,*
11. *John Ralſton,*

YEAS.

12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage,*
14. *William Finlay,*
15. *William Todd,*
16. *Thomas Morton,*
17. *Matthew Ritchie,*
18. *John M'Dowell,*
19. *John Smiley,*
20. *Abraham Smith,*
21. *Robert Loller,*
22. *George Smith,*

NAYS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *William Coats,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *John Keller,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Richard Willing,*
9. *Edward Jones,*
10. *Robert Ralſton,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Charles Humphreys,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert Craig,*
16. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
17. *Henry Miller,*
18. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

19. *Philip Gartner,*
20. *David M'Conaughy,*
21. *Henry Tyſon,*
22. *Joſeph Lilly,*
23. *Frederick Watts,*
24. *Robert Whitehill,*
25. *Nicholas Lutz,*
26. *Abraham Lincoln,*
27. *Henry Spyker,*
28. *David Davis,*
29. *Philip Kreemer,*
30. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
31. *Peter Burkhalter,*
32. *Robert Brown,*
33. *Jonas Hartzel,*
34. *Frederick Antes,*
35. *Daniel Montgomery,*
36. *Samuel Dale,*

NAYS.

37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *James M'Calmont,*

NAYS.

39. *Peter Richards,*
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.—Whereupon

It was moved, and ſeconded, to inſert the following additional clauſe, *viz.*

" And whereas many of the ſettlers upon the lands on the northern and weſtern frontiers of this State, have been very great ſufferers by the ravages of the *Indians* during the late war, and thereby have, for many years, been prevented from the cultivation of the lands poſſeſſed by them, and it is reaſonable, that, during the continuance of the late war, the intereſt accruing upon the purchaſe-money due and payable as aforeſaid, by all actual ſettlers on ſaid lands, their heirs or ſucceſſors, whoſe habitations were rendered deſolate by the *Indians* in the courſe of the late war, ſhould be exonerated.

" *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all actual ſettlers reſiding in the northern and weſtern frontiers of this State, and who have been driven by the *Indians* from their habitations in the courſe of the late war, they or their legal repreſentatives ſhall be exonerated and acquitted of the intereſt accruing upon the purchaſe money due and payable as aforeſaid, from the firſt day of *January* which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, until the firſt day of *July*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-four,—provided they reſpectively pay or ſecure the purchaſe-money of the lands by them ſeverally claimed in the manner and within the time herein before mentioned, provided alſo, that the perſons applying for the benefit of ſaid exoneration do prove, by the oath of a credible perſon, taken before a Juſtice of the peace for the proper county, or before a member of the Supreme Executive Council, that the perſon in whoſe right the aforeſaid benefit is claimed, was, in the courſe of the laſt war, actually driven from his habitation on the ſaid land, through force or fear of the *Indians*, and that the ſaid plantation was conſequently left without inhabitants."

On the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame ?*"—The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Finlay* and Mr. *Smiley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Coats,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *Joſeph Thomas,*
7. *John Keller,*
8. *Arthur Erwin,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *Adam Orth,*
12. *David Jenkins,*
13. *Robert Craig,*
14. *Robert Clark,*
15. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
16. *John Harris,*
17. *Nicholas Lutz,*
18. *Abraham Lincoln,*
19. *Henry Spyker,*
20. *David Davis,*

YEAS.

21. *Philip Kreemer,*
22. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
23. *John Ralſton,*
24. *George Woods,*
25. *Robert Cluggage,*
26. *Frederick Antes,*
27. *Daniel Montgomery,*
28. *Samuel Dale,*
29. *William Finlay,*
30. *William Todd,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *Matthew Ritchie,*
33. *John M'Dowell,*
34. *James Johnſton,*
35. *Abraham Smith,*
36. *James M'Calmont,*
37. *Peter Richards,*
38. *Robert Loller,*
39. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
6. *Charles Humphreys,*
7. *James Porter,*
8. *Henry Miller,*
9. *John Hay,*

NAYS.

10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *Peter Richards,*
15. *Robert Brown,*
16. *John Smiley,*
17. *George Smith,*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The ſaid Bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 15, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from *Sharp Delany* eſquire, collector of impoſts for the port of *Philadelphia*, in anſwer to the requiſition of the Houſe of yeſterday, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a draught of an Addreſs to the honourable *Benjamin Franklin* Eſquire, which was read, and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honourable BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *L. L. D.*

THE Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, in the moſt affectionate manner congratulate you on your ſafe arrival in your native country, after ſo long an abſence on the moſt important buſineſs. We likewiſe congratulate you on the firm eſtabliſhment of the Independence of *America*, and the ſettlement of a General Peace after the intereſting ſtruggle in which we were ſo long engaged.

We are confident, Sir, that we ſpeak the ſentiments of this whole country, when we ſay, that your ſervices in the public councils and negotiations, have not only merited the thanks of the preſent generation, but will be recorded in the pages of hiſtory to your immortal honour. And it is particularly pleaſing to us, that while we are ſitting as members of the Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania*, we have the happineſs of welcoming into the State a perſon who was ſo greatly inſtrumental in forming its free and excellent conſtitution. May it pleaſe God to give you a ſerene and peaceful enjoyment of the evening of life, and a participation of that happineſs you have been ſo inſtrumental in ſecuring to others.

Ordered, That Mr. *Speaker,* together with Mr. *Moore,* Mr. *Coats,* Mr. *Long,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *J. Craig,* Mr. *Ewing,* Mr, *Harris,* Mr. *Lincoln,* Mr. *Hartzel,* Mr. *Cluggage,* Mr. *Antes,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Ritchie,* Mr. *Smiley,* Mr. *Johnſton,* and Mr. *Loller,* being a member from each county, be a committee to preſent the aforeſaid Addreſs to the Hon. *Benjamin Franklin.*

The Bill entitled, " *An act authorizing the Supreme Executive Council to* " *draw on the Treaſurer of this State for the Sum of* *in favour of*

"David Mead *eſquire*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Bill entitled, "*An act to encourage and protect the Manufactures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures, which interfere with them*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from *Charles Thompſon* Eſquire, was read, with its incloſures, reſpecting the repreſentation of the reſpective States in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to preſent the Addreſs agreed to by this Houſe this forenoon, to the honourable *Benjamin Franklin*, reported, that they had preſented the ſame accordingly, and received the following anſwer thereto, *viz.*

Mr. SPEAKER *and* GENTLEMEN,

I AM extremely happy to find, by your friendly and affectionate addreſs, that my endeavours to ſerve our country in the late important ſtruggle, have met with the approbation of ſo reſpectable a body as the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of *Pennſylvania*. I eſteem that approbation as one of the greateſt honours of my life. I hope the peace with which God has been graciouſly pleaſed to bleſs us may be laſting, and that the free conſtitution we now enjoy, may long contribute to promote our common felicity. The kind wiſhes of the General Aſſembly for my particular happineſs affect me very ſenſibly, and I beg they would accept my thankful acknowledgments.

A Petition from the miniſter, wardens, and veſtry of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St. *James*, in the borough of *Lancaſter*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, That a certain *John Douglas*, by indenture bearing date the 29th day of *September*, 1775, granted and conveyed a certain tract or piece of land ſituated in *Saliſbury* townſhip in the ſaid county, unto *William Atlee* and *Jaſper Yeates*, eſquires, wardens of the ſaid church; that the ſaid congregation are alſo veſted in fee ſimple of a certain Lot of Ground in the borough of *Lancaſter* aforeſaid,—and repreſenting, that it is the unanimous deſire of all the members of ſaid congregation to ſell the ſaid tract and lot of ground for the purpoſe of building a Parſonage Houſe for the miniſter of the ſaid church: Therefore praying leave to bring in a Bill for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this State by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 16, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *John Weitzel*, late Lieutenant of the county of *Northampton*, was read, ſetting forth, That in *July* 1778, he received orders from the Supreme Executive Council to raiſe 300 men for the public ſervice out of the militia; that ſeveral of the battalions not furniſhing their full quota, he was obliged, in order to effectuate the above object, to give a bounty of 100 dollars *per* man to twenty ſubſtitutes hired to ſupply the deficiency, for which he is now ſued: Therefore praying the interference of this Houſe.

On motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid Petition was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of *Northampton* county to report thereon.

A Petition from *David Shaffer*, *Iſaac Melcher*, and *Adam Melcher*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the Bill entitled, "*An act to confirm to the truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the Board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity to chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of their members (not being a Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the Corporation for one year*," ſo far as reſpects two ground-rents of L. 100 a-year each, therein mentioned, made payable to ſaid Truſtees out of two lots of ground owned by them, becauſe the right to the ſame is now conteſted in a court of juſtice, and praying that it may be left to a fair, candid, and unbiaſſed trial by the court and jury.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill, entitled, "*An act for the encouraging and increaſing of Shipping and Navigation*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a Bill entitled, "*An act empowering certain Truſtees therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and to apply the monies ariſing therefrom towards the building of a Parſonage Houſe for the uſe of the miniſter for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* James *in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, "*A Supplement to the act, entitled*, "An act to provide further regulations whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land Office, and in the Surveying of lands," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from the honourable *Thomas M'Kean* and *George Bryan* eſquires, and Dr. *James Hutchiſon* was read, praying to be heard before a committee of the Houſe reſpecting the eſtimate of the eſtates aſſigned by the Supreme Executive Council to the Univerſity of the State of *Pennſylvania*, purſuant to law, and the purchaſes made by the ſaid Univerſity, as rendered by the Comptroller General ;—and, on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time—whereupon, on the queſtion, "*Shall the prayer thereof be granted?*" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Gartner*, and are as follow, *viz,*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Joſeph Thomas,*
10. *John Keller,*
11. *Richard Willing,*
12. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
13. *Perſifor Frazer,*
14. *John Craig,*
15. *Adam Orth,*
16. *James Porter,*
17. *William Stoy,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Robert Clark,*
21. *Frederick Watts,*
22. *Robert Whitehill,*
23. *Nicholas Lutz,*
24. *Abraham Lincoln,*
25. *Henry Spyker,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*
27. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28. *Peter Burkhalter,*
29. *Jonas Hartzel,*
30. *Frederick Antes,*
31. *Daniel Montgomery,*
32. *William Finlay,*
33. *William Todd,*
34. *Thomas Morton,*
35. *John M'Dowell,*
36. *John Smiley,*
37. *James Johnſton,*
38. *James M'Calmont,*
39. *Peter Richards,*
40. *Robert Loller,*
41. *George Smith,*
42. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Arthur Erwin,*
3. *Edward Jones,*
4. *Robert Ralſton,*
5. *Charles Humphreys,*
6. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
7. *Henry Miller,*
8. *John Hay,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *James Ewing,*
11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *George Woods.*

So it was carried in the affirmative. Thereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Johnſton*, and Mr. *Loller* be a committee for the purpoſe aforeſaid, and that they report to this Houſe a ſtate of the annual income of the ſaid Univerſity under the grants of the Supreme Executive Council of this commonwealth.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An act for the regulation of Bankruptcy.

An act to eſtabliſh a ferry from the ſouth-weſt ſide of the *Monongahela* oppoſite the town of *Pittſburgh.*

An act to eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the borough of *Briſtol*, in the county of *Bucks.*

An act to compel the ſpeedy ſettlement, and the paying and ſecuring of the debts due to this State for lands held by location or other office-right, obtained before the 10th day of *December*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and yet remain unpatented.

The following Extract from the minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, was preſented to the chair, and read as follows.

IN COUNCIL, *September* 16th, 1785.

“ *Ordered*, That the Comptroller's report of this day, entitled, “ *An* “ *account of reſervations to the Univerſity*,” be tranſmitted to the honourable “ the General Aſſembly.”

Extract from the minutes,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, jun. *Secretary*.

The Bill entitled, “ *An act for the ſupport of government*,” was alſo brought in engroſſed, compared at the table, and on the queſtion, “ *Shall the ſame* “ *be enacted into a law, and the Speaker be directed to ſign the ſame?*” A member preſented the following additional clauſe, as a rider to the ſaid Bill, which was read, and, on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond and third times, as follows:

“ And whereas, ſince the cloſing of this act, it appears to the General Aſſembly, that the proviſion heretofore made for the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, conſidering the importance of his ſtation, is not ſufficient to enable the ſaid officer to employ an able or ſufficient clerk.

“ *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That, notwithſtanding any thing contained in the ſaid act, the further additional ſum of *per* annum, over and beſides the ſum of five hundred pounds therein allowed to ſaid Secretary ſhall be allowed and iſſued to him, in order to enable him to provide and pay an able and ſufficient clerk, and the ſame ſhall be drawn for in like manner as the ſalary before mentioned.”

Whereupon it was moved to fill up the blank with “ *two hundred and fifty* “ *pounds*,” and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Long* and Mr. *Smiley*, are as follow, *viz*.

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Richard Willing*,
8. *Robert Craig*,
9. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
10. *Henry Miller*,
11. *John Hay*,
12. *Philip Gartner*,
13. *James Ewing*,
14. *David M'Conaughy*,
15. *Henry Tyſon*,

YEAS.

16. *Joſeph Lilly*,
17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *Nicholas Lutz*,
19. *Philip Kreemer*,
20. *Peter Burkhalter*,
21. *George Woods*,
22. *Matthew Ritchie*,
23. *John Smiley*.
24. *James Johnſton*,
25. *James M'Calmont*,
26. *Peter Richards*,
27. *Robert Loller*,
28. *George Smith*,
29. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *Elias Boys*,
3. *Thomas Long*,
4. *Joſeph Thomas*,
5. *John Keller*,
6. *Arthur Erwin*,
7. *Edward Jones*,
8. *Robert Ralſton*,
9. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,

NAYS.

10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *Charles Humphreys*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *James Porter*,
15. *David Jenkins*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *John Harris*,
18. *Abraham Lincoln*,

NAYS.

19. *Henry Spyker,*
20. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21. *Robert Brown,*
22. *Jonas Hartzel,*
23. *Frederick Antes,*

NAYS.

24. *Daniel Montgomery,*
25. *William Finlay,*
26. *William Todd,*
27. *Thomas Morton,*
28. *John M'Dowell.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Thereupon, on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid rider as amended ?*" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Long* and Mr. *Mawhorter*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *Richard Willing,*
8. *Robert Craig,*
9. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
10. *Henry Miller,*
11. *John Hay,*
12. *Philip Gartner,*
13. *James Ewing,*
14. *David M'Conaughy,*
15. *Henry Tyſon,*

YEAS.

16. *Joſeph Lilly,*
17. *Frederick Watts,*
18. *Nicholas Lutz,*
19. *Philip Kreemer,*
20. *Peter Burkhalter,*
21. *George Woods,*
22. *Matthew Ritchie,*
23. *John Smiley,*
24. *James Johnſton,*
25. *James M'Calmont,*
26. *Peter Richards,*
27. *Robert Loller,*
28. *George Smith,*
29. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Thomas Long,*
4. *John Clark,*
5. *Joſeph Thomas,*
6. *John Keller,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Edward Jones,*
9. *Robert Ralſton,*
10. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *Charles Humphreys,*
13. *John Craig,*
14. *Adam Orth,*
15. *James Porter,*

NAYS.

16. *William Stoy,*
17. *David Jenkins,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Abraham Lincoln,*
20. *Henry Spyker,*
21. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
22. *Robert Brown,*
23. *Jonas Hartzell,*
24. *Frederick Antes,*
25. *Daniel Montgomery,*
26. *William Finlay,*
27. *William Todd,*
28. *Thomas Morton,*
29. *John M'Dowell.*

And the votes being equal, the Speaker was called upon to give his caſting vote, which he did in the affirmative ; whereupon the ſaid Rider was ordered to be engroſſed, in order that the ſame may be enacted into a law with the aforeſaid bill.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for debating the Bill entitled, " *An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity to chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the ſaid corporation for one year,*" be poſtponed until *Monday* next.

Adjourned till Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 17, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from *Sharp Delany*, Eſquire, collector of impoſts, was read, ſtating the revenue which hath ariſen from his office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from divers claimants and ſettlers of the lands at *Wyoming*, under the authority of this State, was read, ſetting forth, That they have been forcibly diſpoſſeſſed of their property, and plundered of their effects, by men who now are in open rebellion againſt the government and authority of this State, and praying this Houſe to adopt ſuch meaſures as will tend to eſtabliſh the civil authority in that part of this State, and thereby prevent the effuſion of blood.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report, read *September* 13th inſtant, on the petition of *Jacob Kentzer*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, with the addition of the members from the county of *Montgomery*, and that they be inſtructed to report a Bill if they deem it neceſſary.

The committee appointed on the petition of *Jacob Van Foſſen*, made report, which was read; and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Ordered, That the ſame committee report a Bill.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a Bill entitled, " *An act to veſt the legal eſtate of two parcels of glebe lands of the Epiſcopal* " *church of St.* John *in* Pequea, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *in Truſtees, to ſell* " *the ſame, and to ſecure the annual intereſt of the money ariſing by the ſale there-* " *of towards the living of the parſon or incumbent of the ſaid church*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen who,* " *in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the* " *ſervice of this State, or of the United States*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act autho-* " *riſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of* " *this State for the ſum of* *in favour of* David Mead *Eſquire*," and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the Repreſentatives of* " *the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met,* " *and by the authority of the ſame*, That the Supreme Executive Council be, " and they are hereby authoriſed to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this " State for the ſum of being the balance due him."

On the queſtion, " *Shall the blank be filled up with ſixty-ſeven Pounds and* " *three pence?*" The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Frazer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *William Coats,*

YEAS.

6. *Arthur Erwin,*
7. *Richard Willing,*
8. *Edward Jones,*
9. *Robert Ralſton,*
10. *Perſifor Frazer,*

YEAS.

11. *Charles Humphreys*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *Henry Miller*,
18. *John Hay*,
19. *Philip Gartner*,
20. *James Ewing*,

YEAS.

21. *Henry Tyſon*,
22. *Joſeph Lilly*,
23. *Frederick Watts*,
24. *George Woods*,
25. *Matthew Ritchie*,
26. *John Smiley*,
27. *Peter Richards*,
28. *Robert Loller*,
29. *George Smith*,
30. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *James Vanſant*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *Thomas Long*,
5. *John Clark*,
6. *Joſeph Thomas*,
7. *John Keller*,
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
9. *John Craig*,
10. *David M'Conaughy*,
11. *John Harris*,
12. *Robert Whitehill*,
13. *Nicholas Lutz*,
14. *Abraham Lincoln*,

NAYS.

15. *Henry Spyker*,
16. *David Davis*,
17. *Philip Kreemer*,
18. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
19. *Peter Burkhalter*,
20. *Robert Brown*,
21. *Frederick Antes*,
22. *Daniel Montgomery*,
23. *Samuel Dale*,
24. *William Todd*,
25. *Thomas Morton*,
26. *John M'Dowell*,
27. *James Johnſton*,
28. *James M'Calmont*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid Bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public onſideration.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally comared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ame, *viz.*

An act to declare and eſtabliſh the conſtitutional rights of the Preſident and Council of this State to draw for public monies in the hands of the Treaſurer of the commonwealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly, ſo far as they re repugnant to the ſame.

An act for the ſupport of government.

An act to enable commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a Lottery ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building Newark Academy and a German Lutheran church in *Whitpain* townſhip, in *Philadelphia* county, and repairing *Norriton* meeting-houſe; and every other perſon concerned therein,—and for other purpoſes.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *William Hunter*, late a non-commiſſioned officer in the navy of this State, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Joſeph Blancher*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, That he loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *John Stephens*, of the county of *Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, That a certain *Edward Nicholas* was ſeized of a certain tract of three hundred acres of land ſituate in *Limerick* townſhip, in the ſaid county, and by his laſt will deviſed the ſame to the rev. *William Currie* and *Thomas Bell* their heirs and aſſigns, in truſt and upon ſpecial confidence, to pay the rents and profits to the Teſtator's daughter *Suſannah*, during her natural life, and after her death to ſell the ſame, and divide the monies ariſing therefrom among the Teſtator's four children, *Henry*, *Edward*, *Elizabeth*, and *Mary*; that the ſaid Teſtator and his wife are both dead, and *Suſannah* the annuitant hath not been heard of for thirty years; that the petitioner, by regular conveyances, is entitled to a conſiderable ſhare of the ſaid eſtate,—and praying leave to bring in a Bill to compel the Executors in the ſaid will named to ſell and diſpoſe of the premiſes for the uſe of the perſons legally claiming under the ſaid Teſtator.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, "*An act for* "*the relief of officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen, who, in the courſe of the late war,* "*have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this State, or of the* "*United States*," and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to empower* Deborah Irvine *to receive the inte-*"*reſt upon her huſband* James Irvine's *depreciation certificate during his abſence*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Bill entitled, "*An act empowering certain Truſtees, therein named, to* "*ſell and diſpoſe of certain Lands and Premiſes, and to apply the monies ariſing* "*therefrom towards the building of a Parſonage Houſe for the uſe of the Miniſter* "*for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St.* James, *in the bo-*"*rough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until Ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, September 19, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Petition of *James Parr* and others, read September 10th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Humphreys*, and Mr. *Cluggage*, to report thereon.

The Petition of *Jonathan Plumer*, read September 10th inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the member who preſented it, have leave to withdraw it.

The Petition of divers inhabitants of *Rye* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, read September 2d inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be diſmiſſed.

A Letter from *Bernard Dougherty*, eſquire, was preſented to the chair, and read, together with the accounts incloſed, as ſettled by the Comptroller General, of monies by him paid and expended in the purchaſe of arms and accoutrements for the militia of the county of *Bedford.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " *An act to veſt the legal eſtate of two parcels of glebe lands* " *of the Epiſcopal church of St.* John *in* Pequea, *in the county of* Lancaſter *in* " *Truſtees, to ſell the ſame, and to ſecure the annual intereſt of the money ariſing* " *by the ſale thereof towards the living of the parſon or incumbent of the ſaid* " *church*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned till Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a Bill entitled, " An " act to exonerate *Jacob Kintzer*, collector of public taxes for the townſhip of " *Huntington* in *York* county, and *Jacob Van Foſſen*, collector of public taxes " for the townſhip of *Worceſter*, in the county of *Montgomery*, from the pay- " ment of certain ſums of public money of which they were reſpectively rob- " bed," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " An act concerning Divorces and Alimony," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for the third reading of the Bill entitled, " A Supplement to the poor laws of this commonwealth," be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " An act to ap- " propriate the ſum of two thouſand pounds of the public monies to the lay- " ing out and making of a highway from the weſtern parts of *Cumberland* " county to the town of *Pittſburgh*, and to authoriſe the Preſident in Coun- " cil to appoint commiſſioners to lay out the ſame," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, " An act for the encouraging and increaſing of Ship- " ping and Navigation," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for debating the Bill entitled, " An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of " *Pennſylvania*, divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid " ſeminary, and for enabling the board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity to " chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee " in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the " ſaid corporation for one year," be poſtponed.

Adjourned until Nine oclock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 20, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from the Comptroller General was read, ſetting forth, That he is now preparing for publication a ſtate of the accounts of the ſeveral counties for their taxes, that by ſundry acts of Aſſembly abatements and exonerations were allowed to be made in favour of the diſtreſſed inhabitants on the frontiers, and liſts or returns of ſuch abatements were thereby directed to be made to the General Aſſembly; therefore requeſting this Houſe to order ſuch liſts to be delivered to him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Remonſtrance and Petition of *Philip Albright,* late a lieutenant colonel of the *York* county militia, in behalf of himſelf and others, was read, ſetting forth, That in the ſummer of the year 1778, they were ordered on duty to guard the frontiers of *Cumberland* and *Bedford* counties againſt the incurſions of the *Indians* ; that, in performing the ſaid duty, they were frequently compelled to expend their own money in the purchaſe of proviſions, forage, and liquor, to prevent the ſoldiers from mutiny ; that, when they received their pay, it had depreciated at leaſt ſeven or eight for one; and ſtating, that ſuits have been commenced againſt ſome of them for money received by others, and praying that they may be allowed, on the ſettlement of their accounts with the public, for the depreciation of their pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WE communicate to you, with great pleaſure, the incloſed letter from Meſſrs. *Rittenhouſe, Porter,* and *Elliot,* as it will inform you of their progreſs in the important buſineſs of running and marking the weſtern boundary of this State.

JOHN DICKINSON.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia, September 19, 1785.

And the incloſed Letter was alſo read.

The committee appointed to confer with a committee of the Truſtees of the Univerſity of *Pennſylvania,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *April* 1ſt laſt, on the report of the commiſſioners, and a member of Aſſembly for the county of *Bucks,* relative to the robbery of *James Snodgraſs,* a collector of military fines, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Bill entitled, " An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of " this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manu- " factures which interfere with them," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table,—whereupon a member preſented an additional clauſe by way of rider to the ſaid Bill, which was read, and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond and third times.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, in order to be enacted into a law with the aforeſaid Bill.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " An act to " confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of *Pennſylvania,* divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and " for enabling the Board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity, to chooſe a new " Truſtee inſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the ſaid corpora-

“ tion for one year ;” whereupon, it was moved and ſeconded “ *To poſtpone* “ *the further conſideration of the ſaid Bill until a ſtate of all the funds belonging to* “ *the Univerſity of the State of* Pennſylvania, *be laid before this Houſe ?*” And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Smiley*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Joſeph Thomas*,
2. *Arthur Erwin*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *William Stoy*,
8. *Robert M'Pherſon*,
9. *Henry Miller*,
10. *John Hay*,
11. *Philip Gartner*,

YEAS.

12. *David M'Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *Abraham Lincoln*,
16. *George Woods*,
17. *Robert Cluggage*,
18. *William Todd*,
19. *Matthew Ritchie*,
20. *James M'Calmont*,
21. *Richard Willing*.

NAYS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *Jacob Engle*,
4. *James Vanſant*,
5. *Manuel Eyre*,
6. *William Coats*,
7. *Thomas Long*,
8. *John Clark*,
9. *John Keller*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *John Craig*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *Frederick Watts*,
18. *Robert Whitehill*;
19. *Nicholas Lutz*,

NAYS.

20. *Henry Spyker*,
21. *David Davis*,
22. *Philip Kreemer*,
23. *Thomas Mawhorter*,
24. *Peter Burkhalter*,
25. *Robert Brown*,
26. *Jonas Hartzel*,
27. *John Ralſton*,
28. *Daniel Montgomery*;
29. *Samuel Dale*,
30. *William Finlay*,
31. *Thomas Morton*,
32. *John M'Dowell*,
33. *John Smiley*,
34. *James Johnſton*,
35. *Robert Loller*,
36. *George Smith*,
37. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid Bill having been thereupon in part debated by paragraphs, *Ordered*, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Rider to the Bill entitled, “ An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this State, by laying additional duties on the importation of ‘ certain manufactures which interfere with them,” having been brought in ngroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law with the ſaid Bill, nd the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Iſaac Auſtin* was read, remonſtrating againſt a clauſe in the Bill entitled, “ An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the

“ State of *Pennſylvania,* divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, *&c.*” as thereby he is to be diveſted of his eſtate in a certain Meſſuage, Lot of Ground, and Ferry Wharf at the end of *Mulberry* ſtreet, in the city of *Philadelphia*; and therefore praying his eſtate in the premiſes, as well as the claim of the Univerſity to the ſame, may be left to a fair and candid trial by a court and jury, to whoſe cognizance it belongeth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, “ An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of *Pennſylvania,* divers eſtates therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity, to chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the ſaid corporation for one year,” and in debating the Preamble to the ſaid Bill, it was moved and ſeconded to ſtrike out the following ſection, *viz.* “ A Lot of Ground, Meſſuage, and Ferry Wharf, ſituate in the city of *Philadelphia,* at the eaſt end of *Mulberry* ſtreet, extending in depth from north to ſouth forty-two feet, and by the north ſide of *Mulberry* ſtreet from weſt to eaſt ninety-eight feet into the river *Delaware,* late the eſtate of *William Auſtin,*” and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Humphreys* and Mr. *Smiley,* are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Thomas Long,*
2. *Joſeph Thomas,*
3. *Arthur Erwin,*
4. *Richard Willing,*
5. *Edward Jones,*
6. *Robert Ralſton,*
7. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
8. *Charles Humphreys,*
9. *Philip Gartner,*
10. *Henry Tyſon,*
11. *Joſeph Lilly,*
12. *George Woods,*
13. *Robert Cluggage.*

NAYS.

1. *Frederick Kuhl,*
2. *Elias Boys,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *James Vanſant,*
5. *Manuel Eyre,*
6. *William Coats,*
7. *John Clark,*
8. *John Keller,*
9. *Perſifor Frazer,*
10. *John Craig,*
11. *James Porter,*
12. *William Stoy,*
13. *David Jenkins,*
14. *Robert Craig,*
15. *Robert Clark,*
16. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
17. *John Harris,*
18. *Robert Whitehill,*
19. *Nicholas Lutz,*
20. *Abraham Lincoln,*
21. *Henry Spyker,*
22. *Philip Kreemer,*
23. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
24. *Peter Burkhalter,*
25. *Robert Brown,*
26. *Jonas Hartzel,*
27. *John Ralſton,*
28. *Frederick Antes,*
29. *Daniel Montgomery,*
30. *Samuel Dale,*
31. *Thomas Morton,*
32. *John M'Dowell,*
33. *James M'Calmont,*
34. *John Smiley,*
35. *Peter Richards,*
36. *George Smith,*
37. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration the ſaid Bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 21, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from captain *David Zeigler* and lieutenant *John Armſtrong* of the firſt *American* regiment, was read, repreſenting that the ſum of one dollar allowed for each man they enliſt, is totally inadequate to the expences which muſt neceſſarily attend that ſervice, that it is not poſſible, nor do they conceive it can be expected, that they ſhould advance their own monies for the ſaid purpoſe, eſpecially as a reduction of their pay has been lately been made; therefore praying that this Houſe may empower the Supreme Executive Council to pay the reaſonable expences that the aforeſaid ſervice ſhall require.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from the firſt Preſbyterian congregation of *Donegal*, in *Lancaſter* county, was read, praying leave to bring in a Bill for incorporating the ſaid congregation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed the 1ſt of *April* laſt, on the report of the commiſſioners of *Bucks* county and a member from ſaid county, concerning the robbery of *James Snodgraſs*, a collector of military fines, which was read the firſt time *September* 20, was read the ſecond time; whereupon the Houſe came to the following Reſolution, *viz.*

"*Reſolved*, That the ſaid *James Snodgraſs* have leave of this Houſe to bring in a Bill to exonerate him from the payment of the ſum of Three Pounds and Fifteen Shillings ſpecie, and alſo from the payment of the ſum of Thirty-two pounds and Ten Shillings of the bills of credit of this State, dated *April* 1781, of which monies he was robbed, the ſame being military fines, of which he was collector for the townſhip of *New Britain*, in the county of *Bucks*."

The report of the committee appointed on the report of the commiſſioners of the county of *Lancaſter*, and a member from ſaid county, reſpecting the robbery of *Jacob Fouts*, collector of the public taxes for the townſhip of *Straſburg*, in the ſaid county, which was read the firſt time *April* 8th, was read the ſecond time; whereupon the Houſe came to the following Reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the aforeſaid *Jacob Fouts* have leave to bring in a Bill to exonerate him from the payment of the ſum of ninety-ſix pounds twelve ſhillings and eight pence of the bills of credit of this State, dated *April* 1781, of which he was robbed, he not being guilty of any neglect.

The Bill entitled, "An act to exonerate *Jacob Kentzer*, collector of public taxes for the townſhip of *Huntington* in *York* county, and *Jacob Van Foſſen*, collector of public taxes for the townſhip of *Worceſter*, in the county of *Montgomery*, from the payment of certain ſums of public money of which they were reſpectively robbed," was called up for the ſecond reading, but it being ſuggeſted, that the caſes of *James Snodgraſs* and *Jacob Fouts*, to whom leave was this day granted to bring in Bills reſpectively for a ſimilar purpoſe, might be incorporated in the Bill moved to be read; whereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid Bill be poſtponed, until the ſame can be modified accordingly.

A Letter from *Bernard Dougherty*, and papers connected therewith, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Boys*, Mr. *Cluggage*, and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to empower* Deborah Irvine *to receive the intereſt upon her huſband* James Irvine's *depreciation certificate during his abſence*," read the ſecond time *September* 17th, was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to con-" firm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates " therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the " board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity to chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of " their number (not being a Truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be ab-" ſent from the meetings of the ſaid corporation for one year*," and after further progreſs had been made therein, it was moved by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, " *That the ſaid Bill be poſtponed, and that the ſame be recommend-" ed to the attention of the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly*." And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *Arthur Erwin*,
2. *Richard Willing*,
3. *Edward Jones*,
4. *Robert Ralſton*,
5. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
6. *Charles Humphreys*,
7. *Robert M‘Pherſon*,
8. *Henry Miller*,
9. *John Hay*,

YEAS.

10. *Philip Gartner*,
11. *James Ewing*,
12. *David M‘Conaughy*,
13. *Henry Tyſon*,
14. *Joſeph Lilly*,
15. *George Woods*,
16. *Robert Cluggage*,
17. *Matthew Ritchie*.

NAYS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Jacob Engle*,
5. *Elias Boys*,
6. *James Vanſant*,
7. *Manuel Eyre*,
8. *William Coats*,
9. *John Clark*,
10. *John Keller*,
11. *Perſifor Frazer*,
12. *John Craig*,
13. *Adam Orth*,
14. *James Porter*,
15. *William Stoy*,
16. *David Jenkins*,
17. *Robert Craig*,
18. *Robert Clark*,
19. *Frederick Watts*,
20. *John Harris*,

NAYS.

21. *Robert Whitehill*,
22. *Nicholas Lutz*,
23. *Henry Spyker*,
24. *David Davis*,
25. *Philip Kreemer*,
26. *Peter Burkhalter*,
27. *Robert Brown*,
28. *Jonas Hartzell*,
29. *Frederick Antes*,
30. *Daniel Montgomery*,
31. *Samuel Dale*,
32. *William Todd*,
33. *Thomas Morton*,
34. *John M‘Dowell*,
35. *John Smiley*,
36. *James Johnſton*,
37. *James M‘Calmont*,
38. *Peter Richards*,
39. *George Smith*,
40. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the aforeſaid Bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Bill entitled, " *An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State in the ſervice of the United " States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed the fourth day " of* June, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight*," and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" SECT. 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the certificates ſo to be given, together with the intereſt thereon, ſhall be, and the ſame are hereby funded and made payable in the ſame manner and at the ſame time as thoſe already granted to the other officers of this State in the ſervice of the United States."

It was moved and ſeconded to ſtrike out the words "*And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,*" in order to inſert in lieu thereof the following, *viz.* "*Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen,* &c. That the Comptroller General be and he is hereby authorized and required to adjuſt the depreciation due on the pay of the officers of the late *Pennſylvania* line, deranged as aforesaid in the year 1778, during the time they were continued in the ſervice of the United States, and to iſſue certificates for the ſame to the officers deranged as aforesaid; and that the certificates ſo to be given, together with the intereſt thereon, ſhall be and the ſame are hereby funded and made payable in the ſame manner and at the ſame time as thoſe already granted to the other officers of this State in the ſervice of the United States, provided nevertheleſs that ſuch of the ſaid officers who have received the year's pay allowed by Congreſs, ſhall be chargeable with and account for the ſame out of the monies that may be due to them for depreciation."

And the ſaid motion being reduced to writing by the member who made it. On the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be read?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Coats*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *William Coats,*
8. *Thomas Long,*
9. *John Clark,*
10. *Arthur Erwin,*
11. *Richard Willing,*
12. *Edward Jones,*
13. *Robert Ralſton,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *Charles Humphreys,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *Robert Clark,*
18. *Henry Miller,*
19. *John Hay,*
20. *Philip Gartner,*
21. *James Ewing,*
22. *David M'Conaughy,*
23. *Henry Tyſon,*
24. *Joſeph Lilly,*
25. *George Woods,*
26. *Robert Cluggage,*
27. *William Todd,*
28. *Thomas Morton,*
29. *Matthew Ritchie,*
30. *Peter Richards,*
31. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle,*
2. *Joſeph Thomas,*
3. *John Keller,*
4. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
5. *John Craig,*
6. *James Porter,*
7. *David Jenkins,*
8. *Robert Craig,*
9. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
10. *Frederick Watts,*
11. *John Harris,*
12. *Robert Whitehill,*
13. *Nicholas Lutz,*
14. *Henry Spyker,*
15. *David Davis,*
16. *Philip Kreemer,*
17. *Abraham Lincoln,*
18. *Jonas Hartzel,*
19. *Frederick Antes,*
20. *Daniel Montgomery,*
21. *Samuel Dale,*
22. *John M'Dowell,*
23. *John Smiley,*
24. *James Johnſton,*
25. *James M'Calmont.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the ſaid motion, being conſidered, was adopted.

And the ſaid Bill being fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being paſſed into a law.

DISSENTIENT.

BECAUSE, on the 13th inſtant, a vote was taken, whether the Houſe agreed to the firſt enacting ſection of this Bill, which ſection comprehended the main object of it, when the ſame was negatived by a majority of Eleven againſt it, and the Yeas and Nays were taken. To reſume the rejected Bill during the ſame Seſſion is a moſt flagrant breach of the ſtanding and long eſtabliſhed uſage of Parliament, and of all former Aſſemblies, in which the rule, time out of mind, has been, that a Bill once rejected, as this has been, ſhall not be again read during the Seſſion.

Becauſe, the only means of bringing the ſubject again conſiſtently before the Houſe, would be by a Bill drawn differently from the preſent; which, however, the forms of the Conſtitution would not admit to be done to any purpoſe, after the firſt Bill was rejected.

Becauſe, the evil and inconvenient example hereby ſet, may produce th moſt dangerous and ruinous conſequences, by being applied to matters o far greater importance.

Becauſe, in a ſingle Legiſlature as ours is, common prudence ſhould ſtrongly induce us rather to increaſe the forms and retardments of buſineſs than to leap over thoſe boundaries which the wiſdom of our anceſtors and predeceſſors had ſet up.

We embrace this opportunity of weakening, as far as we can, this moſt pernicious precedent, and of expreſſing our diſſatisfaction with, and diſſent from, ſuch an intemperate proceeding, and of manifeſting our ſincere regret, that gentlemen, whoſe characters we reſpect, can be ſo pertinaciouſly attached to their particular ideas, as to be induced to violate rules ſanctioned by venerable antiquity.

James Porter,
John Harris,
Jonas Hartzel,
John Keller,
Abraham Lincoln,
David Davis,
Robert Whitehill,
John Smilie,
Frederick Antes,
Frederick Watts,
John Craig,
John M'Dowell,
James M'Calmont,
Thomas Mawhorter,
Peter Burkhalter,
Henry Spyker,
Philip Kreemer.

Adjourned until Three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen,* "*who, in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in* "*the ſervice of this State, or of the United States,*" read the ſecond time Sept. 17th, was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Bill entitled, "*An act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to* "*draw*

“ *draw an order on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſum of* £.67-0-3, *in* “ *favour of* David Mead *eſquire*,” read the ſecond time September 17th, was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion, “ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed for the purpoſe of being enacted* “ *into a law ?*” the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Frazer*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore*,
2. *Frederick Kuhl*,
3. *William Will*,
4. *Elias Boys*,
5. *William Coats*,
6. *Arthur Erwin*,
7. *Richard Willing*,
8. *Edward Jones*,
9. *Robert Ralſton*,
10. *Perſifor Frazer*,
11. *Charles Humphreys*,
12. *Adam Orth*,
13. *James Porter*,
14. *David Jenkins*,
15. *Robert Craig*,
16. *Robert Clark*,
17. *Philip Gartner*,
18. *James Ewing*,
19. *Henry Tyſon*,
20. *Joſeph Lilly*,
21. *Frederick Watts*,
22. *George Woods*,
23. *Robert Cluggage*,
24. *Matthew Ritchie*,
25. *Peter Richards*,
26. *Robert Loller*,
27. *George Smith*,
28. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

NAYS.

1. *Jacob Engle*,
2. *James Vanſant*,
3. *Manuel Eyre*,
4. *Thomas Lang*,
5. *John Clark*,
6. *Joſeph Thomas*,
7. *John Keller*,
8. *Joſeph Strawbridge*,
9. *John Craig*,
10. *David M‘Conaughy*,
11. *Robert Whitehill*,
12. *Nicholas Lutz*,
13. *Abraham Lincoln*,
14. *David Davis*,
15. *Philip Kreemer*,
16. *Thomas Mawharter*,
17. *Peter Burkhalter*,
18. *Robert Brown*,
19. *Jonas Hartzel*,
20. *Frederick Antes*,
21. *Daniel Montgomery*,
22. *Samuel Dale*,
23. *Thomas Morton*,
24. *John M‘Dowell*,
25. *James Johnſton*,
26. *James M‘Calmont*,

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Memorial of captain *David Zeigler* and lieutenant *Armſtrong*, read this forenoon, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a Bill entitled, “ *An act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation belonging to St.* Peter's, *in* “ *the great valley in the county of* Cheſter,” which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from the Continental Loan Office, for the State of *Pennſylvania*, was read, relative to an application made to the Treaſurer of this State, as receiver of Continental Taxes, for what money he might have on hand, ariſing from the requiſition of Congreſs of *April* 1784, in conſequence of orders of the honourable the Board of Treaſury of the United States, and tranſmitting divers letters that have paſſed on the ſaid ſubject between the ſaid officers, by which it appears, that the Treaſurer of this State, deſirous to comply with the requiſition of the Board of Treaſury as far as in his power, has offered to make an immediate payment to the ſaid Board of 18,000 dollars, in caſe they would receive the ſame in the bills of credit emitted by virtue of a law of this State paſſed the laſt ſeſſions of the Legiſlature; but that the ſaid Board of Treaſury declines to receive the ſaid bills, as they will not anſwer the purpoſes of Congreſs; and as the aforeſaid bills are made receivable in this State in the payment of all public taxes, conſequently nearly all that hath been received by the ſaid Treaſurer on account of arrears of taxes, which is the fund appropriated to ſatisfy the requiſition of Congreſs, hath been in theſe bills;—therefore the Legiſlature is urged to take meaſures to enable the Treaſurer of this State to diſcharge the ſaid requiſition in coin.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until Nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 22, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, read September 20th inſtant, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

It was moved and ſeconded to take up, by paragraphs, the Bill entitled, "*An act to enable*   *to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the old Court Houſe and Priſon in the town of* Sunbury;" and on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe take up the ſame by paragraphs?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Woods*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *James Vanſant,*
4. *Manuel Eyre,*
5. *William Coats,*
6. *John Craig,*
7. *Adam Orth,*
8. *James Porter,*
9. *William Stoy,*
10. *Robert Clark,*
11. *Frederick Watts,*
12. *John Harris,*
13. *David Davis,*
14. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15. *Peter Burkhalter,*
16. *Jonas Hartzel,*
17. *Frederick Antes,*
18. *Daniel Montgomery,*
19. *Samuel Dale,*
20. *John M'Dowell,*
21. *John Smiley,*
22. *James M'Calmont,*
23. *Peter Richards,*
24. *George Smith,*
25. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *Jacob Engle,*
3. *Elias Boys,*
4. *Thomas Long,*
5. *John Clark,*
6. *John Keller,*
7. *Arthur Erwin,*
8. *Richard Willing,*
9. *Edward Jones,*
10. *Robert Ralſton,*
11. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
12. *Perſifor Frazer,*
13. *Charles Humphreys,*
14. *David Jenkins,*
15. *Robert Craig,*
16. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
17. *Henry Miller,*
18. *John Hay,*
19. *Philip Gartner,*
20. *David M'Conaughy,*
21. *Henry Tyſon,*
22. *Joſeph Lilly,*
23. *Robert Whitehill,*
24. *Nicholas Lutz,*
25. *Abraham Lincoln,*
26. *Philip Kreemer,*

27. *Robert Brown,*
28. *George Woods,*
29. *Robert Cluggage,*
30. *Thomas Morton,*
31. *Matthew Ritchie*
32. *James Johnſton,*
33. *Robert Loller.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The Bill entitled, "*An act to exonerate* Jacob Kintzer, *collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Huntington, York *county,* Jacob Van Foſſen, *collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Worceſter, *in the county of* Montgomery, James Snodgraſs, *collector of military fines in* New Britain *townſhip* Bucks *county, and* Jacob Fouts, *collector of public taxes in* Straſburg *townſhip* Lancaſter *county,—from the payment of certain ſums of public money of which they were reſpectively robbed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed September 17th inſtant, on the petition of *James Parr* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed   on the memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the Letter from *Bernard Dougherty* eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following Bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An act to empower *Deborah Irvin* to receive the intereſt upon her huſband *James Irvin's* depreciation certificate during his abſence.

An act to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſum of £.67-0-3, in favour of *David Mead* eſquire.

An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this State in the ſervice of the United States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs paſſed the fourth day of June 1778.

The Bill entitled, "*An act for regulating the meaſurement of Corn and Salt imported into the port of Philadelphia,*" having alſo been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table; and, on the queſtion, "*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law, and the Speaker be directed to ſign the ſame?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Will,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *Jacob Engle,*
4. *Elias Boys,*
5. *James Vanſant,*
6. *Manuel Eyre,*
7. *Thomas Long,*
8. *John Clark,*
9. *Arthur Erwin,*
10. *Richard Willing,*
11. *Edward Jones,*

YEAS.

12. *Robert Ralſton,*
13. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
14. *Perſifor Frazer,*
15. *Charles Humphreys,*
16. *Adam Orth,*
17. *William Stoy,*
18. *David Jenkins,*
19. *Robert Craig,*
20. *Henry Miller,*
21. *John Hay,*
22. *David M'Conaughy,*

23. *Henry*

YEAS.

23. *Henry Tyſon,*
24. *Joſeph Lilly,*
25. *John Harris,*
26. *Nicholas Lutz,*
27. *George Woods,*
28. *Robert Cluggage,*
29. *William Todd,*
30. *Matthew Ritchie,*
31. *James M'Calmont,*
32. *Peter Richards,*
33. *Robert Loller,*
34. *George Smith,*
35. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *William Will,*
2. *John Keller,*
3. *John Craig,*
4. *James Porter,*
5. *Robert Clark,*
6. *Robert M'Pherſon,*
7. *Philip Gartner,*
8. *Frederick Watts,*
9. *Robert Whitehill,*
10. *Abraham Lincoln,*
11. *David Davis,*
12. *Philip Kreemer,*
13. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14. *Peter Burkhalter,*
15. *Robert Brown,*
16. *Frederick Antes,*
17. *Daniel Montgomery,*
18. *Samuel Dale,*
19. *Thomas Morton,*
20. *John M'Dowell,*
21. *John Smiley,*
22. *James Johnſton.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

DISSENTIENT.

1ſt, BECAUSE the title of the Bill, and one of the ſections, declare the duties of the officer to be commenſurate with the bounds of the port of *Philadelphia,* which includes all landing places (between *Newcaſtle* county ſouthward, and the Falls near *Trenton* northward) on the weſtern ſhore of the *Delaware,* and within its branches on that ſide; and yet he is required on two hours notice to ſend his deputies to meaſure any Salt and Corn brought into the ſaid port; and he is to take an oath of office accordingly. For the bounds of the port of *Philadelphia,* we refer to the charter of the city of *Philadelphia,* ſection 37th.

2d, Becauſe the preamble aſſerts, that no legal proviſion has been made to ſupply the failure of the city ordinance on this ſubject, and the firſt enacting clauſe, upon this falſe ſuggeſtion, proceeds to erect the office of Meaſurer of Corn and Salt for the city and port of *Philadelphia*; whereas it is directed in and by an act entitled, "*An act authoriſing the Preſident and Council to appoint judges to hold the city-courts, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" enacted on the 21ſt of *March* 1777, in ſection 4. that the preſident and council ſhould appoint meaſurers of grain and ſalt, ſuch as had been uſually appointed by the late mayor and commonalty.

3d, Becauſe that *William Greenway,* eſquire, is at preſent meaſurer of Salt and of Grain under the ſaid act, by virtue of a commiſſion from the preſident and council; and though it might be neceſſary to enlarge his juriſdiction and regulate his duties, yet we cannot approve of thus covertly diſmiſſing an officer without complaint, upon the falſe ſuggeſtions before mentioned, in which, ſhould we concur, we ſhould diſgrace ourſelves, as it would imply inattention to, or ignorance of, the laws of the commonwealth.

4th, Becauſe the new officer to be termed Meaſurer of Corn and Salt, will not be removeable for miſbehaviour, except two dealers in Salt or in Corn join in complaining againſt him; no charge, however well founded, from any others availing, whereby an entire and an unequal influence will be created over the officer, who will depend on the dealers in theſe articles for his continuance in office.

5th, Becauſe, by the bill the deputy-meaſurers, when once appointed, are to be independent of their principal, and he, of courſe, is not to be reſponſible for them ; for thoſe deputies are to be removeable on the like partial complaint of two dealers in Corn or in Salt only. Hence, characters, the moſt improper, may be kept in employ, if they take care to act agreeably to the intereſted dealers in Corn and Salt.

Laſtly, For theſe and other reaſons, taken from the indigeſted contents of the bill, we have, in this manner, expreſſed our diſapprobation of a law, which, being local in its object, has, we fear, ſlipt through the uſual forms with leſs attention than it deſerved.

Robert Whitehill,
John Craig,
Robert Clark,
John M'Dowell,
Robert Brown .

The Bill entitled, " *An act for encouraging and increaſing Navigation and* " *Shipping,*" &c. was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſmitted to the Judges for their opinion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from a number of perſons reſiding at *Wyoming,* and claiming under the State of *Connecticut,* was read, and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,—and it appearing to be couched in very indecent expreſſions, and reflecting highly on the dignity of the Houſe, and the honour of the Speaker.

Ordered unanimouſly, That it be diſmiſſed for its indecency.

The Bill entitled, " *An act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen, who,* " *in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the* " *ſervice of this State, or of the United States,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The Bill entitled, " *An act to confirm to the Truſtees of the Univerſity of the* " *State of* Pennſylvania, *divers eſtates, therein enumerated, for the ſupport of the* " *ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the Board of Truſtees of the ſaid Univerſity to* " *chooſe a new Truſtee inſtead of any of their number (not being a Truſtee in right* " *of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the corporation for* " *ſix months,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table. —and, on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law, and the Speaker* " *be directed to ſign the ſame?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Whitehill,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1. *William Moore,*
2. *Frederick Kuhl,*
3. *William Will,*
4. *Jacob Engle,*
5. *Elias Boys,*
6. *James Vanſant,*
7. *Manuel Eyre,*
8. *William Coats,*

YEAS.

9. *Thomas Long,*
10. *John Clark,*
11. *Perſifor Frazer,*
12. *John Craig,*
13. *Adam Orth,*
14. *James Porter,*
15. *William Stoy,*
16. *David Jenkins,*

YEAS.

17. *Robert Craig,*
18. *Robert Clark,*
19. *Frederick Watts,*
20. *John Harris,*
21. *Robert Whitehill,*
22. *Nicholas Lutz,*
23. *David Davis,*
24. *Philip Kreemer,*
25. *Thomas Mawhorter,*
26. *Peter Burkhalter,*
27. *Robert Brown,*
28. *Jonas Hartzel,*
29. *Frederick Antes,*

YEAS.

30. *Daniel Montgomery,*
31. *Samuel Dale,*
32. *William Todd,*
33. *Thomas Morton,*
34. *John M'Dowell,*
35. *John Smiley,*
36. *James Johnſton,*
37. *James M'Calmont,*
38. *Peter Richards,*
39. *Robert Loller,*
40. *George Smith,*
41. *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

NAYS.

1. *Joſeph Thomas,*
2. *Arthur Erwin,*
3. *Richard Willing,*
4. *Edward Jones,*
5. *Robert Ralſton,*
6. *Joſeph Strawbridge,*
7. *Charles Humphreys,*
8. *Robert M'Pherſon,*

NAYS.

9. *John Hay,*
10. *Philip Gartner,*
11. *David M'Conaughy,*
12. *Henry Tyſon,*
13. *Joſeph Lilly,*
14. *Abraham Lincoln,*
15. *George Woods.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 23, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Petition from the board of Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college, was read, referring to their Memorial read in the late Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 9, 1784, and praying the attention of this Houſe to the prayer therein contained; and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Bernard Dougherty* eſquire, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

"Your committee, to whom were referred the letter from *Bernard Dougherty* eſquire, with the incloſures, have carefully examined the ſame, and, agreeably to the ſettlement of his account by the Comptroller General, there appears to be a balance of one hundred and ten pounds and four pence halfpenny; and, as it appears by the minutes of the eighth General Aſſembly, page 182, that ſimilar accounts were then ſettled, and orders given for the payment of ſaid accounts, therefore offer the following reſolution.

"*Reſolved*, That the Preſident, or, in his abſence, the Vice-Preſident with the Council, be directed to draw on the Treaſury of this State in favour of *Bernard Dougherty* for the ſum of one hundred and ten pounds and fourpence halfpenny, being the balance of his account,"

And on the queſtion, "*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*" it was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, read *March* 25th laſt, on the petition of *Michael Ryan*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the Memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That no alteration be made in the manner of drawing the Tickets of the ſecond claſs of the State Lottery.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt laſt, on the letter from the honourable the Chief Juſtice of this State, made report, which was read, and, on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be ſpecially referred to the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *James Parr* and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following Laws, *viz.*

No. 1. *A ſupplement to the act entitled, " An act for building Market-Houſes and keeping a public Market on both ſides of Callowhill ſtreet and New-Market ſtreet in the Northern Liberties of the city of Philadelphia."*

No. 2. *An act for incorporating the German Lutheran congregation of Germantown townſhip in the county of Philadelphia, in the ſtate of Pennſylvania.*

No. 3. *An act to repeal part of an act of aſſembly, entitled " An act to prevent the erecting any new and Independent State within the limits of this Commonwealth " ſo far as it directs trial for offences in another county, than that in which the offence was or might have been committed.*

No. 4. *An act for confirming a road, eſtabliſhing a ferry, and erecting a bridge, acroſs the Neſhaminy creek.*

No. 5. *An act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the North-weſtern frontiers and for other purpoſes.*

No. 6. *An act to enable the honourable Edward Shippen Eſq. and John Swift Eſq. the only ſurviving truſtees now reſident within this ſtate, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey and aſſure a certain meſſuage and lot of ground in the city of Philadelphia commonly called the Maſon's Lodge, and to apply the monies ariſing from ſuch ſale to the uſes therein mentioned.*

No. 7. *A ſupplement to the act entitled " An act for erecting and opening a Loan-Office, for the ſum of fifty thouſand pounds," and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

No. 8. *An act to appoint truſtees to purchaſe a piece of land within deſcribed bounds, and thereon to erect a court houſe and priſon for the uſe of the county of Weſtmoreland.*

No. 9. *An act to regulate the General Elections of this Commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein.*

No. 10. *An act for the immediate ſale of the lot of ground in the city of Philadelphia, whereon the old goal and workhouſe lately ſtood.*

No. 11. *An act for declaring the acts of aſſembly which give the authority of Juſtice of peace to the chief burgeſs of the borough of Lancaſter and to the burgeſſes of Carliſle and Reading to be ſo far contrary to the conſtitution, and to repeal the ſame acts ſo far as they contradict the conſtitution.*

No. 12. *An act to repeal an act of aſſembly entitled " An act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of North-America, alſo one other act entitled " an act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, Bank bills and Bank notes of the Preſident and company of the Bank of North-America and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

No. 13. *An act to compel the ſpeedy ſettlement and the paying of the debts due to this ſtate for lands held by location or other office right obtained before the tenth day of December one thonſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſix, and yet remaining unpatented.*

No. 14. *An act to eſtabliſh a Ferry from the ſouth weſt ſide of the Monongahela oppoſite the town of Pittſburg.*

No. 15. *An act to re-eſtabliſh the ancient corporation of the borough of Briſtol, in the county of Bucks.*

No. 16. *An act for the regulation of bankruptcy.*

No. 17. *An act to declare and eſtabliſh the conſtitutional rights of the preſident and Council of this ſtate to draw for the public monies in the hands of the treaſurer of*

this

the commonwealth, and to repeal divers acts of Aſſembly, ſo far as they are repugnant to the ſame.

No. 18. *An act to enable commiſſioners therein named to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery ſet up and drawn for the purpoſe of building Newark Academy and a German Lutheran church, in Whitpaine townſhip, in Philadelphia county, and repairing Norriton meeting-houſe, and every other perſon therein mentioned.*

No. 19. *An act for the ſupport of government.*

No. 20. *An act concerning divorces and alimony.*

No. 21. *An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them.*

No. 22. *An act to appropriate the ſum of two thouſand pounds of the public monies to the laying out and making of an highway from the weſtern parts of Cumberland county to the town of Pittſburg, and to authoriſe the preſident in council to appoint commiſſioners to lay out the ſame.*

No. 23. *An act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the officers of this ſtate in the ſervice of the United States, who were deranged by the reſolution of Congreſs, paſſed the fourth day of June, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight.*

No. 24. *An act authoriſing the ſupreme executive council to draw on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of ſixty ſeven pounds and three pence in favour of David Mead eſq.*

No. 25. *An act to empower Deborah Irvine to receive the intereſt upon her huſband James Irvine's depreciation certificate during his abſence.*

No. 26. *An act for regulating the meaſurement of corn and ſalt imported into the port of Philadelphia.*

No. 27. *An act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers, and ſeamen, who, in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate or of the United States.*

No. 28. *An act to confirm to the truſtees of the univerſity of the ſtate of Pennſylvania divers eſtates therein enumerated for the ſupport of the ſaid ſeminary, and for enabling the board of truſtees of the ſaid univerſity to chooſe a new truſtee in the ſtead of any of their number (not being a truſtee in right of office or ſtation) who ſhall be abſent from the meetings of the ſaid corporation during the ſpace of ſix months.*

Which Laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the thanks of this Houſe be given to Mr. SPEAKER, for his faithful, able, and upright diſcharge of the important duties of his ſtation.

The Houſe then adjourned *ſine die.*

SAMUEL BRYAN, *Clerk of Gen. Aſſembly.*

APPENDIX.

THE Minority on the queſtion, " *Shall the Bill entitled,* " An act to " repeal an act of Aſſembly entitled, " *An act to incorporate the ſub-* " *ſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," alſo one other act entitled, " *An act* " *for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, Bank bills,* " *and Bank notes of the Preſident and company of the Bank of* North-America, " *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" *be engroſſed, in order to be enacted* " *into a law ?*" gave the following reaſons for their vote, which were received too late to be inſerted in the proper place.

" *DISSENTIENT.*

" *1ſt,* BECAUSE the preamble to this Bill declares, " Whereas the " Bank eſtabliſhed in the city of *Philadelphia* hath been found to " be injurious to the welfare of this State, and in its tendency appears to be " incompatible with the public ſafety."—Yet no proof whatſoever hath been brought or attempted to be brought in confirmation of the aſſertion, altho' Counſel learned in the law hath been formally introduced to the Houſe for this expreſs purpoſe.

" *2d,* Becauſe the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, in legiſlative form, have ſolemnly eſtabliſhed the Bank of *North-America,* by granting and publiſhing charters of incorporation, with the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of permanence and ſtability,—and, upon the ſolemnity of theſe grants and the faith and dignity of government, many citizens of this and the neighbouring States, and alſo foreigners, in friendly alliance with us, have been induced to throw their property into ſtock, and become members of this Corporation : Yet the Houſe, by means of their Bill, in violation of theſe grants, and without proceſs of law, without even a ſuggeſtion that this inſtitution hath forfeited its rights, by any mal-feizance, omiſſion, or neglect, but on the grounds of bare ſpeculative opinion, or rather of mere arbitrary *Dictum,* is about to disfranchize and diſſolve the Corporation. Forming thereby a moſt dangerous precedent, not only to all other bodies corporate, but even to the individuals of the State, whoſe rights and privileges may be diveſted by a like exertion of uncontrouled power.

" *3d,* Becauſe laws paſſed in manifeſt violation of the common ſenſe of the people, as to right and juſtice, can only be ſupported by the continued exerciſe of that arbitrary power which created them. *Sic jubeo quia ſic volo,* is a maxim of a deſpotic, not of a free, government ; is inconſiſtent with the ſpirit of the Bill of Rights, and an abuſe of that truſt which our Conſtitution hath lodged in a ſingle Branch of Legiſlature.

" *4th,* Becauſe we are of opinion, that when government hath formed a body-corporate, defined its powers, and eſtabliſhed its rights, it hath given political exiſtence to a being amenable to the penalties, and therefore entitled to the protection of, the laws ; and that this body, ſo known to the law and recognized by it, cannot *juſtly* be annihilated, even by the power that created it, on motives of mere caprice, perſonal conſiderations, or partial policy.

“ *5th,* Becauſe, as this Inſtitution was eſtabliſhed in this State in purſuance of the recommendation of Congreſs, under the title of “ *The* Bank “ *of* North-America,” we conceive, that common decency requires that a charter, ſo granted, ought not to be retracted, without ſome previous official repreſentation to that reſpectable Body of the reaſons that ſhould juſtify ſuch a procedure, and hearing what Congreſs might further ſay in recommendation of an inſtitution they have thought of public advantage, and ſo earneſtly recommended. We conſider this omiſſion as a breach of that decorum and fæderal amity which ought to ſubſiſt between individual States and their repreſentatives in the council of the empire, eſpecially in matters of general and national concern.

“ *Richard Willing.*
“ *James Ewing,*
“ *Henry Miller,*
“ *Charles Humphreys,*
“ *Edward Jones,*
“ *Robert Ralſton,*
“ *Philip Gartner,*
“ *John Hay,*
“ *Henry Tyſon,*
“ *Joſeph Lilly,*
“ *Robert Cluggage,*
“ *David M'Conaughy,*
“ *Matthew Ritchie.*”

SAMUEL BRYAN, *Clerk of Gen. Aſſembly.*

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Tenth General Aſſembly

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the Twenty-
fourth Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD One
Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-five.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.
M,DCC,LXXXV.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *&c.*

Monday, October 24, 1785. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as Repreſentatives o ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 25, 1785. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a uorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, October 26, 1785. A. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a uorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a uorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 27, 1785. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

The returns of the elections held for the city of *Philadelphia* and the ſe-eral counties of this ſtate were read, by which it appeared that the followg gentlemen were returned as Repreſentatives in the General Aſſembly for he ſaid city and counties reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
William Will,
Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
James Irvine,
George Clymer.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Iſaac Gray,
John Salter,
Thomas Mifflin,
George Logan,
William Robinſon, jun.

For the county of BUCKS.
John Clark,
Arthur Erwin,
Samuel Foulke,
John Smith,
Joſeph Thomas.

For the county of CHESTER.
Anthony Wayne,
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Thomas Bull,
John Hannum,
Robert Smith,
Samuel Evans,
Jonathan Morris.

For the county of LANCASTER.
Edward Hand,
Adam Hubley,
Alexander Lowrey,
Samuel John Atlee,
Emanuel Carpenter,
Joſeph Work,
Abraham Scott.

For the county of YORK.
Henry Miller,
David M‘Conaughy,
Michael Schmyſer,
Philip Gartner,
Joſeph Lilly,
Henry Tyſon,
David M‘Clellan,
Adam Eichelberger.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
Robert Whitehill,
John Carothers,
Frederick Watts,
John Creigh.

For the county of BERKS.
Abraham Lincoln,
Nicholas Lutz,
Henry Spyker,
Philip Kreemer,
David Davis,
Baltſer Gehr.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Robert Trail,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Burkhalter,
Robert Brown.

For the county of BEDFORD.
George Woods,
John Piper.

For the county of NORTHUMB$^{D.}$ *

For the county of WESTMOREL$^{D.}$
William Todd,
William Findley,
John Hughes.

For the county of WASHINGTON.
John M‘Dowell,
James Edgar.

For the county of FAYETTE.
John Smilie.

For the county of FRANKLIN.
James M‘Calmont,
Abraham Smith,
John Rhea.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Robert Loller,
Peter Richards,
Thomas Rees. †

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Adam Orth,
Robert Clark,
David Krouſe,
Daniel Bradley.

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* The judges of the late General Election held for the county of *Northumberland* have made two different and ſeveral returns of Repreſentatives, for the ſaid county, in the General Aſſembly for the enſuing year, which were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

† The judges who have ſigned the return for the county of *Montgomery* inform the Houſe, by a *Nota Bene* written oppoſite to their ſignatures, that *Thomas Rees* and *Samuel Wheeler* had each an equal number of votes; and they tranſmit the requeſt of *Samuel Wheeler*, that his name may not be mentioned in the ſaid return.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

William Will,
Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
James Irvine,
George Clymer,
Iſaac Gray,
John Salter,
Thomas Mifflin,
George Logan,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Clark,
Arthur Erwin,
Samuel Foulke,
John Smith,
Joſeph Thomas,
Anthony Wayne,
Robert Ralſton,
Thomas Bull,
John Hannum,
Robert Smith,
Samuel Evans,
Jonathan Morris,
Edward Hand,
Adam Hubley,
Alexander Lowrey,
Samuel J. Atlee,
Joſeph Work,
Henry Miller,
David M'Conaughy,
Michael Schmyſer,
Philip Gartner,
Joſeph Lilly,
Henry Tyſon,
David M'Clellan,
Adam Eichelberger,
Robert Whitehill,
John Carothers,
Frederick Watts,
John Creigh,
Abraham Lincoln,
Nicholas Lutz,
Henry Spyker,
Philip Kreemer,
David Davis,
Baltſer Gehr,
Thomas Mawhorter,
Robert Trail,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Burkhalter,
Robert Brown,
William Todd,
William Findley,
John M'Dowell,
John Smilie,
Abraham Smith,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Robert Loller,
Peter Richards,
Thomas Rees,
Adam Orth,
Robert Clark,
David Krouſe,
Daniel Bradley.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Thomas Mifflin*, Eſq; was duly elected.

Mr. Speaker, being placed in the chair, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, having made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the following queſtions be aſked of the members ſeverally, previous to their being qualified to take their ſeats.

Firſt. Have you taken the oath or affirmation of allegiance to this ſtate, as preſcribed by law?

Second. Do you hold any office or place of truſt, not allowed of by the conſtitution?

The members were then ſeverally qualified, according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Clerk, and Aſſiſtant Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Samuel Bryan*, Eſquire, was duly elected Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus*, Eſquire, unanimouſly elected Aſſiſtant Clerk.

A petition from *Edward Middleton* was read, praying to be appointed Serjeant at Arms.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe then proceeded to the election of a Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Nicholas Weaver* was duly elected Serjeant at Arms, and *Joſeph Fry*, Door-keeper.

Samuel Bryan, Eſq; being notified of his appointment as Clerk, appeared at the table, and was qualified to the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being now met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 28, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Emanuel Carpenter, Eſq; elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

Jacob Shallus, Eſq; appearing at the table, was ſworn to the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

The Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper were ſeverally ſworn to the faithful performance of their reſpective duties.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the committee appointed yeſterday, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe being met are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, be further inſtructed to confer with Council, reſpecting the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, for the enſuing year.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be, and hereby are empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee to prepare a draught of proper rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall have been reported and adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. *Loller* be appointed to receive the fines, that may be incurred by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *J. Clark*, Mr. *Hannum*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Gehr*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smilie*, Mr. *A. Smith*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Orth*, be a committee, to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee, for examining the laws and minutes of the Houſe, preparing them for publication, and correcting them at the preſs.

The committee appointed to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, and to confer with Council reſpecting the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing a Meſſage to lay before the Houſe, at which time they would alſo ſuggeſt the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident for the enſuing year.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, October 29, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

James M'Calmont and *John Rhea*, Eſquires, elected Repreſentatives for the county of *Franklin*, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from *John M'Pherſon* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath with great trouble and expence compleated a directory for the city and liberties of *Philadelphia,* which is now in the preſs for publication, but that it cannot be of much ſervice unleſs the ſtreets and houſes are numbered; therefore praying a law may be paſſed for that purpoſe, and he appointed to execute the buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council reſpecting the time and place, *&c.* for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, reported that Council recommend that eleven o'clock this forenoon be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, that the Aſſembly-Chamber be the place, and propoſe the following order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.
Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.
High-Sheriff, with his wand.
Coroner, with his wand.
Judges of the Supreme Court.
Judge of the Common Pleas and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.
Judge, Regiſter and Marſhal of the Admiralty.
Naval Officer.
Treaſurer and Attorney-General of the State.
Secretary of the Land-Office.
Receiver-General and Surveyor-General of the State.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and
Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.
Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls and Eſcheator-General.
Secretary of Council.

His Excellency The PRESIDENT, and the Honorable The VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms, with the Mace.
Honorable the Speaker of the Houſe of Aſſembly.
Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk of the Houſe.
Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.
Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.
General and Field Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

Whereupon *Reſolved,* That the Houſe approve of the time, place, and order of proceſſion, as above mentioned; that Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Whitehill,* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council thereof, and that the Houſe are now ready to proceed to the ſaid election.

After ſome time the ſaid committee reported that they had performed that ſervice, and that Council were ready to concur in ſaid election.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly-Chamber, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, conformably to the 19th ſection of the conſtitution, and elected, by ballot, His Excellency BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Eſquire, PRESIDENT, and The Honorable CHARLES BIDDLE, Eſquire, VICE-PRESIDENT, for the enſuing year; and the members of each having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then attended the Proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the Court-houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*; and having returned to the Aſſembly-Chamber, they

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, October 31, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the managers of the ſtate lottery was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of enacting, by a ſupplement to the act for inſtituting the ſaid lottery, that, inſtead of the preſent mode directed by ſaid act, blanks may be mixed with the prizes, and drawn therewith in the ſecond, third and fourth claſſes of the ſaid lottery.

Ordered to lie on the table.

James Moore, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter,* and *John Hughes,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,* to reconſider the vote of the Houſe on *Friday* laſt, *viz.*

" On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Loller,* " be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and " bring forward *the unfiniſhed buſineſs,*" in order to ſtrike out the words " *the* " *unfiniſhed buſineſs,*" and, in lieu thereof, to inſert the words " *and report* " *therefrom ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe.*"

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"—It was carried in the affirmative.

The propoſed amendment was then adopted.

A letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon,* Eſquire, Judge of Admiralty, was read, ſetting forth, that as he conceives it to be the duty of every officer of government to bring into the view of the legiſlature, ſuch omiſſions or regulations as may be of importance to the department entruſted to his care, he has been induced to addreſs ſeveral ſucceſſive Houſes of Aſſembly, reſpecting an error which appears in the printed volume of the laws of this commonwealth, and in the act for the eſtabliſhment of the Court of Admiralty Seſſions, for the trial of offences committed on the high ſeas. That the error alluded to will be found in the printed volume of laws, page 314, and ſection 20th of the Admiralty law, in theſe words,——" And the Juſtices of " the Supreme Court and the Judge of Admiralty, *or any two of them*, are " hereby conſtituted Juſtices," *&c. &c.*——whereas, by referring to the original publication of that law, or to the manuſcript record thereof in the Rolls Office, it will be found that thoſe words, as enacted, ſtand thus——" And " the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, *or any two of them*, and the Judge of " Admiralty, are hereby conſtituted Juſtices," *&c. &c.*——that it is manifeſt that the tranſpoſition of the words, *or any two of them*, materially affects the juriſdiction of this court, and has been the occaſion of much difficulty and uncertainty, by giving riſe to a queſtion which he believes was never before agitated in any country, *viz.* " Whether a Court of Admiralty can be held, " when no Judge of Admiralty is preſent?"—that to increaſe this difficulty, a ſupplement to this law, page 400, ſection 2d, in the words of mere reference to the former act, has been adopted the ſpurious, and not the original arrangement of thoſe words, and that this has been urged as authentic, in giving two Judges of common law a power to hold a Court of Admiralty, becauſe no error can be ſuggeſted in the ſupplement, and that it has been inſiſted that a ſupplement virtually repeals all matters in the original law even conſtructively inconſiſtent therewith; that in this ſituation ſtands the Court of Admiralty Seſſions for this commonwealth, a court in which the life of the ſubject is concerned, and which ought therefore to reſt on a foundation firm and unequivocal; that the legiſlature, above a year ago, prepared a bill for ſettling the juriſdiction of this court to a certainty, but the then Houſe being ſuddenly diſſolved by the ſeceſſion of ſome of its members, it could not be enacted; therefore praying that a law may be paſſed, for the purpoſe of fixing, indubitably, a juriſdiction ſo ſerious in its operations.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

HEREWITH will be laid before you the following papers, *viz.*——A certificate of the running and marking the boundary line between this ſtate and *Virginia.*——A letter from the Honorable *Joſeph Gardiner*, Eſq; Delegate of *Pennſylvania* in Congreſs, accompanied with a report of the Board of Treaſury.——A letter from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſq; Secretary of Congreſs, dated *October* the ſeventh, incloſing two acts of Congreſs of *September* the twenty-ſeventh, and *September* the thirtieth.——A letter of *October* the tenth from the Board of Treaſury, incloſing the requiſition of Congreſs for the preſent year, with ſtatements of the deficiencies of ſeveral preceding years.——A letter from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſq; dated *October* the fifteenth, incloſing a reſolution of Congreſs of *October* the twelfth.——A letter from the Honorable *John Jay*, Eſq; Secretary for foreign affairs, incloſing one from the Chevalier *John Paul Jones.*——A letter from *John Nicholſon*, Eſq; Comptroller-General, with a paper containing the heads of charges which this ſtate hath againſt the United States.——A letter from the Board of Treaſury of *October* the twenty-fifth, incloſing an act of Congreſs of *April* the twenty-ſeventh, 1784, and another of *October* the twelfth, 1785.——A letter from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſq; of *October* the twenty-fifth, with a ſtate of our repreſentation for the laſt month, and copies of the Journals of Congreſs.

GENTLEMEN,

THESE requiſitions of Congreſs, and the ſubject of their ſeveral reſolutions and acts, appear to us of ſuch vaſt importance to the preſent reputation and future ſecurity of theſe ſtates, that we muſt earneſtly preſs your taking them into immediate conſideration, and making ſuch proviſion for anſwering their ſalutary purpoſes, as to your wiſdom ſhall appear moſt effectual.

B. FRANKLIN, *Preſident.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, October 27, 1785.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, October* 28, 1785.

SIR,

THE incloſed letter was handed to Council by the Collector of the Cuſtoms. The caſe ſtated in it is not ſingular. That of *Parr* and *Lowman*, now depending before the Houſe, is in many of its circumſtances exactly ſimilar. It therefore became the order of the Board, that Mr. *Bartow*'s letter ſhould be tranſmitted to you. I am, Sir, with the greateſt reſpect,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

B. FRANKLIN, *Preſident.*

The Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the letter therewith tranſmitted was alſo read.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 1, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with the letters therewith tranſmitted, to Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Findley*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

The letter from His Excellency the Preſident, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the letter from *Thomas Bartow*, therein incloſed, be referred to Mr. *Hand*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That next *Friday* week be aſſigned for the election of Delegates, to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States; and that the nomination of perſons for Delegates continue until the day of election.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That this Houſe will on *Friday* next proceed to the choice of Printers for the current year.

A petition from *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez* was read, incloſing an account for painting the Arms of this State, *&c.* over the ſeat of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and praying payment of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Matthew Carey*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Printer, was read, ſetting forth, that by the advice of many reſpectable citizens he undertook the publication of the proceedings and debates of the late General Aſſembly during their laſt ſeſſion; that intending to purſue this plan, he is, by the inconvenience of his ſituation, and conſequent difficulty of hearing diſtinctly, debarred from imparting to it all the utility whereof it is ſuſceptible, and is even in danger of miſ-ſtating and mutilating the arguments alledged by the Members; therefore praying he may be indulged to take ſuch a ſituation as may enable him to hear diſtinctly, and publiſh the debates in a ſatisfactory and ample manner.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from the congregation of Seven-day *Baptiſts*, reſiding in the townſhips of *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Nantmill*, and places adjacent, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that a bill for incorporating the ſaid Society was by the late General Aſſembly ordered to be engroſſed, and would have been enacted into a law, but a remonſtrance from *Dan Griffiths* was preſented, ſtating divers objections wherefore the ſaid bill ought not to be paſſed into a law, which remonſtrance was referred to the Members from *Cheſter* county, who adviſed them to call a meeting of the members of the ſaid Society, in order to accommodate any difference and obviate any objections which any individual member might have againſt the ſaid bill; that the petitioners had, in compliance therewith, called two ſeveral meetings of the Society for that purpoſe, at the laſt of which the ſaid *Griffiths* attended, when endeavours were uſed for accommodating the difference, but had not the deſired effect; that the petitioners nevertheleſs conceive themſelves juſtly entitled to hold ſuch charitable donations, as have or may from time to time be made to their Society; therefore praying the ſaid bill may be reſumed, and paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to inſpect the Minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and report therefrom ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before the preſent Houſe, made report in part, which was read; and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the poor laws of this* " *commonwealth,*" read *April* 6th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act for the prevention of vice and* " *immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports, paſtimes* " *and diſſipation,*" read *September* 10th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Hubley*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the* Act to provide further regulations, whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-" Office, and in ſurveying lands," read *September* 16th laſt, be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Atlee* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation belonging to St.* Peter'*s Church, in the* Great Valley, *in the county* " *of* Cheſter," read *September* 21ſt laſt, be referred to the Members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled " *An Act impowering certain Truſtees,* " *therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and to apply*

“ *the monies ariſing therefrom towards the building of a Parſonage-houſe, for the uſe of the Miniſter for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* James, *in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” read *September* 17th laſt, be referred to the Members from *Lancaſter* county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled “ *An Act to veſt the legal eſtate of two parcels of glebe land of the Epiſcopal Church of St.* John, *on* Pequea, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *in Truſtees, to ſell the ſame, and to ſecure the annual intereſt of the money ariſing by the ſale thereof towards the living of the parſon or incumbent of the ſaid Church,*” read *September* 19th laſt, be referred to the members from *Lancaſter* county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled “ *An Act for ſecuring the eſtates, real and perſonal, which have or may eſcheat to this commonwealth,*” be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Hand* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Virginia,* relative to the laying out a road through this ſtate, read *Auguſt* 27th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Hand,* Mr. *M‘Conaughy,* Mr. *Creigh,* Mr. *Lincoln,* Mr. *Mawhorter,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *M‘Dowell,* Mr. *Smilie,* Mr. *Smith,* Mr. *Rees* and Mr. *R. Clark,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hand,* Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Smilie,* be a committee, to report on the petition of *James Parr* and others, read *September* 10th laſt.

Thereupon *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o’clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 2, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John Piper, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Bedford,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A letter from *James Edgar,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* was read, in excuſe for his non-attendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Crabb* and *Henry Moore* was read, together with an account incloſed of ſundry expences incurred during their attendance before the Supreme Executive Council, to give teſtimony reſpecting the late conteſted election held at *Garber*’s mill, then in the county of *Lancaſter,* now in the county of *Dauphin,* and praying payment of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Firſt *Preſbyterian* congregation of *Donegal,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* praying to be incorporated, which was read in the late Houſe *September* 21ſt laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Nicola* was read, ſuggeſting the utility of an eaſy and free communication between the inhabitants of the ſeveral ſtates by a line of regular ſtages, and ſetting forth his intention of eſtabliſhing a regular ſtage from the city of *Philadelphia* to the borough of *Reading,* but that he is apprehenſive, if ſuch an expenſive and hazardous undertaking ſhould prove ſucceſsful, ſome other perſon would ſet up in oppoſition, and deprive him of the benefits that may reſult therefrom; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill for granting him an excluſive right for the term of ten years, under certain regulations.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to arrange the ſubject matters contained in the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council of the 27th day of *October* laſt, and the papers accompanying the ſame, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, The returns of the late election for Repreſentatives in Aſſembly, held in and for the county of *Northumberland*, and the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, were read: Upon which,

A motion reſpecting the ſame was made by Mr. *Whitehill*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*.

After ſome debate, Mr. *Hubley* propoſed an amendment thereto, which being ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*,

It was moved by Mr. *Hannum*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*, that the ſaid motions, together with the aforeſaid returns and papers, be referred to a committee; which was

Carried in the negative.

Whereupon the original motion, being amended, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas there are double returns from the county of *Northumberland*, and the ſame are ſo incomplete, that this Houſe cannot judge which of the candidates in the laſt general election held in the ſaid county had a majority of votes: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to procure and lay before this Houſe, on or before the 18th day of this inſtant *November*, the returns of the ſaid election, together with the liſts, tallies, and other papers thereunto belonging, ſo that the Houſe may be enabled to determine upon the ſaid election.

Reſolved, That the Speaker order *Paul Baldy*, *Thomas Clayton*, *John Thomas*, *Peter Albert*, *John M'Pherſon*, *Ezekiel Fleming*, *Robert Smith*, *John Nelſon* and *John Backenſtoſs*, Judges of the late general election held in and for the county of *Northumberland*; *John Gray*, Inſpector of the townſhip of *Turbutt*; and the Clerks who officiated at the ſame election held for *Northumberland* diſtrict, to attend at the bar of this Houſe on the 18th inſtant, to anſwer ſuch queſtions as may then be aſked them reſpecting the ſaid election.

The report of the committee appointed to arrange the ſubject matters contained in the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, and the papers accompanying the ſame, read this forenoon, was, on motion and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the certificate of the running and marking the boundary line between this ſtate and the ſtate of *Virginia* be entered on the Journals of this Houſe, *viz.*

WE the ſubſcribers, Commiſſioners, appointed by the ſtates of *Pennſylvania* and *Virginia*, to aſcertain the boundary between the ſaid ſtates, do certify that we have carried on a meridian line from the ſouth-weſt corner of *Pennſylvania* northward to the river *Ohio*, and marked it by cutting a wide viſta over all the principal hills interſected by the ſaid line, and by falling or deadening a line of trees, generally, through all the lower grounds. And we have likewiſe placed ſtones marked on the eaſt ſide P. and on the weſt ſide V. on moſt of the principal hills, and where the line ſtrikes the *Ohio*,

which

which ſtones are accurately placed in the true meridian bounding the ſtates as aforeſaid.

WITNESS our hands and ſeals this 23d day of Auguſt, 1785.

DAVID RITTENHOUSE,	L. S.	PENNSYLVANIA.
ANDREW PORTER,	L. S.	
ANDREW ELLICOTT,	L. S.	VIRGINIA.
JOSEPH NEVILL,	L. S.	

Reſolved, That the letters from *Charles Thomſon,* Eſq; Secretary of Congreſs, dated the ſeventh and fifteenth of *October,* 1785, with their encloſures; and the letters from the Board of Treaſury of the tenth and twenty-fifth of *October,* 1785, with the encloſures, be referred to the committee on ways and means.

Reſolved, That the letter from the Honorable *Joſeph Gardner,* Eſq; dated the firſt of *October,* 1785, with the encloſure; and the letter from the Comptroller-General, of the eighteenth of *October,* 1785, with the encloſure; be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley,* for the purpoſe of examining into the propriety of the ſeveral charges exhibited by the ſaid Comptroller-General, in behalf of this ſtate, againſt the United States, and to report thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 3, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Memorials and addreſſes from a conſiderable number of the freeholders and others, inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* were read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid county, as well as that of *Northumberland,* have been before and ſince the revolution, and at this time are, much diſturbed by a vagrant people, who have ſet up claims to and are forcibly holding and occupying lands within the decided boundaries of this ſtate, to the palpable ruin of great numbers of its well diſpoſed citizens, and the immenſe detriment of the commonwealth at large; that the memorialiſts are therefore conſtrained to remonſtrate to the Houſe, as their legal Repreſentatives, againſt the ill-judged policy of ſuffering inſurgents to commit every ſpecies of outrage in the bowels of the ſtate with impunity; that the duty the memorialiſts owe to themſelves, and the community, will not permit them to be ſilent on the preſent alarming occaſion, when near one third of this commonwealth is rather burthenſome than beneficial to the ſtate; that the memorialiſts view with an eye of deep concern the growth of the evil alluded to, and do, agreeably to the right ſecured to them by the bill of rights, inſtruct their repreſentatives to uſe their beſt endeavours to cauſe ſpeedy and deciſive meaſures to be adopted, for the permanent ſupport of the execution of the laws of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Sundry memorials from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, ſetting forth, that the memorialiſts, though cloſely attached to the community, many of them by birth, and others by long reſidence, have for ſeveral years been deprived of the common rights of citizenſhip, in conſequence of ſundry teſt-laws which ſtill exiſt; that ſeveral applications have been made to former Aſſemblies for a reſtoration of their liberties, but hitherto without ſucceſs; that, conſcious of not having committed any offence againſt the conſtitution of the ſtate, under which they derive their claim to equal privileges with their fellow-citizens, they think it their duty to renew thoſe applications to the preſent Aſſembly for a participation thereof, hoping that no law will be ſuffered to exiſt in *Pennſylvania*, which ſhall deny to ſo large a portion of its inhabitants thoſe privileges, which are unalterably inſured to them by the frame of government and the bill of rights; that, whatever temporary prejudices may have heretofore exiſted, they preſume that long experience has proved them to be ill-founded, and that even their enemies muſt confeſs that they have demeaned themſelves as peaceable and honeſt citizens, not meriting that ſtate of vaſſalage to which they are reduced; that therefore, truſting to the candor and impartiality of the preſent Houſe, they preſent their grievances before the Houſe, in full confidence that the Houſe will no longer permit them to be diveſted of thoſe "inherent" rights which are ſo dear to the Houſe, and intereſting to the community.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from ſundry non-jurors of different religious denominations, reſiding in the townſhips of *Norriton* and *Hatfield*, in the county of *Montgomery*, were read, ſetting forth, that the petitioners conceive it to be one of the eſſential privileges of freemen, that they cannot be taxed or otherwiſe diveſted of any part of their property but by their own conſent, or the conſent of their Repreſentatives freely choſen and appointed; that the people of *America*, previous to their late conteſt with *Great-Britain*, being threatened, by Parliamentary impoſitions, with the loſs of this privilege, were ſo ſenſible of the value of it, and their right to it as freemen, that they even ventured to take up arms againſt their mother-country, and riſque their all in defence of it; that the petitioners beheld, with the moſt ſerious concern, the iſſue of ſo important a diſpute referred to the point of the ſword, knowing their religious principles, by excluding them from an active part in ſuch deciſion, would be likely to ſubject them to public odium, and the general reſentment of their countrymen; this conſequence they have indeed experienced; yet they cannot be perſuaded that the ſocieties to which they belong, when the motives of their conduct are impartially conſidered, have deſerved ſuch ignominy, or have been ſo uſeleſs and inimical to the common cauſe, as ſome would repreſent them; for that it ought to be remembered, that, beſides the double fines and taxes levied on their perſons and property, their doors have been always open for the refreſhment of marching parties and relief of the ſick ſoldiery, while their barns and fields are well known to have furniſhed the principal ſupplies to a great part of the *American* army, occaſionally encamped in their neighbourhoods; and that it may truly be ſaid that no inſtance can be ſhewn of any intelligence or aid being given to, or correſpondence held by them, as religious ſocieties, with any of the *Britiſh* officers or ſoldiery during the whole war; that thus disfranchiſed and degraded, without crime or offence, below the level of freemen, in their native land, and by fellow-citizens, the petitioners muſt be loſt, indeed, to the natural feelings of men, not to revolt at a ſtigma ſo injurious, undeſerved and reproachful; wherefore, ſubmitting their ſingular caſe, with all becoming reſpect, to the impartial conſideration, juſtice and humanity of the Legiſlature, they earneſtly ſolicit ſuch relief in the premiſes, as may be thought due to their ſufferings.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Hardie*, late commander of the *Burke* galley, belonging to the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he addreſſed the late Honorable Houſe at their laſt ſeſſion, repreſenting the very great injuries he has ſuſtained in the courſe of the late war, as are fully ſtated in the papers then laid before the Houſe, but that from the multiplicity of buſineſs with which the Houſe were then engaged, they could not enter on the conſideration of the merits of the petitioner's caſe; therefore praying that the Houſe would take his former petition, read in the late Hou[illegible] 31ſt laſt, into conſideration, and grant him ſuch redreſs as to them ſhall ſeem meet

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the *German* Reformed congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, for and in behalf of ſaid congregation, was read, praying for leave to bring in a bil for incorporating them, and their ſucceſſors regularly choſen, and to be conſtituted a corporation and body politic in law and in fact, to have continuanc for ever, by the name, ſtile and title of "The Truſtees, Elders and Deacon of the *German* Reformed congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in th county of *Berks*."

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Firſt *Preſbyterian* congregation of *Donegal*, in *Lancaſter* county, read *November* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon *Reſolved*, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe ſtate in their petition.

The memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, read *October* 31ſt was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *James Irvine*, Mr. *Hannum* and M *Hubley*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 1ſt, reported a bil intituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees therein named to ſell and diſpoſ "of two certain tracts or parcels of glebe lands and premiſes, ſituate in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *and to ſecure the annual intereſ "ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the maintenance and ſupport of the Miniſter for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* Joh "*upon* Pequea," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 1ſt, reported a bil intituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees therein named to ſell and diſpoſ "of certain lands and premiſes, and apply the monies ariſing therefrom towards t "building of a Parſonage-houſe, for the uſe of the Miniſter for the time being "the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* James, *in the borough of* Lancaſter "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, an

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 1ſt, reported a bil intituled "*An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation belonging to S "* Peter's *Church, in the* Great Valley, *in the townſhip of* Tredyffrin, *an "county of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſquire, Judge of Admiralty, read *October* 31ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Atlee* and Mr. *Smilie*, t report thereon.

Moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

That the committee appointed on the letter from the Judge of Admiralty be inſtructed to bring in a bill for defining and eſtabliſhing the juriſdiction the Court of Admiralty ſeſſions for this commonwealth, and for repealing th laws now exiſting on that ſubject; which was

Carried in the negative.

In order to enable the ſeveral committees to proceed on the matters reſpectively referred to them,

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 4, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, ſetting forth, that from the vaſt increaſe of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the number of ſtrangers coming among us, for the purpoſe of ſharing the bleſſings of freedom, liberty and independence, they conceive that the preſent market-place therein is by far too ſmall for the accommodation of the people from different parts of the country reſorting thither, who are expoſed to the moſt inclement weather, without ſhelter in rain and ſnow, to the manifeſt danger of their health; therefore praying, that on the ground of the facts therein ſet forth, as well as thoſe mentioned in divers petitions preſented to the late Houſe, to which recourſe may be had, the Houſe would provide for the eaſe and convenience of their conſtituents, by enacting a law for the enlarging and further extenſion of the market-place in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, in the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* were read, praying, for reaſons ſimilar to thoſe contained in the petition laſt read from *Cheſter* county, that the market-place in *High-ſtreet*, in the ſaid city, may be extended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Francis Bailey* was read, praying to be appointed Printer of the minutes of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Propoſals from *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the minutes of this Houſe, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Steel* was read, praying to be appointed Printer of ſuch part of the buſineſs of the Houſe as may be judged proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bradford* was read, praying to be continued Printer of the laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hazelwood*, junior, in behalf of his brother *Thomas Hazelwood*, late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that his ſaid brother was in the ſervice of his country from the commencement of the late war, and ſerved with reputation during the ſieges of *Mud-Iſland* and *Red-Bank* forts, and was one of the ſix Captains retained in the ſervice and put on the new eſtabliſhment for life, at the time the principal part of the *Delaware* naval force was diſcharged; that as the ſeaſon was then far advanced, and the part of the fleet ſtill in commiſſion could perform no further ſervice during the winter, he made application to the Supreme Executive Council for, and obtained a furlough to make a ſhort voyage to ſea, and return in the ſpring to his ſtation and duty, but that, unfortunately, he has never returned, and probably the veſſel foundered on her voyage; that one of the unhappy conſequences ariſing from this diſaſter is, that the name of your petitioner's brother was omitted to be mentioned in the late act of Aſſembly, with the other five of his brother officers on the ſame eſtabliſhment, which has prevented the petitioner from obtaining a ſettlement of his brother's accounts; therefore praying that the Houſe would take the above facts into conſideration, and enable him, as his brother's repreſentative, to receive the emoluments of his appointment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Whitehead Humphreys*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was the firſt and only perſon in this country who diſcovered and brought to perfection the art of converting bar-iron into ſteel, which has been conſidered, by the beſt workmen and moſt approved judges, "equal in quality, if not ſuperior, to any imported into this ſtate from *Europe*;" that he apprehends it is an undeniable truth, that this ſtate, as well as moſt of the United States, have been ſupplied with that uſeful and neceſſary article during the late war, when it could not be obtained from any other quarter; the memorialiſt therefore requeſts the Houſe to take his ſituation into their moſt ſerious conſideration, and as he has formerly devoted the principal part of his time in eſtabliſhing a manufactory ſo uſeful to this country, he conceives himſelf not undeſerving of notice, and truſts that he will receive the ſame generous countenance and encouragement from the Legiſlature of *Pennſylvania*, which is uſual in all other manufacturing countries.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Overſeers of the Poor for the city of *Philadelphia*, the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, and diſtrict of *Southwark*, was read, ſetting forth, that they preſented to the late Houſe of General Aſſembly a petition and remonſtrance againſt a ſupplementary bill to the poor laws of this commonwealth, the preamble of which ſtated it to be for the remedying great difficulties the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and Overſeers of the Poor labour under; but that the petitioners were of opinion that the ſecond and fifth ſections thereof, ſo far from remedying, would greatly add to the burdens they are ſubject to; that the poor laws are defective in many reſpects, particularly that the Overſeers of the Poor, as the laws now are, have it not in their power to viſit and inſpect into the ſtate of the Alms-Houſe and Houſe of Employment with the Managers of the ſaid houſe; for as few of the poor are admitted but from a recommendation by ſome one or other of the Overſeers, they may juſtly be ſuppoſed as competent judges how long ſuch poor ought to be continued as the Managers themſelves; that they do not wiſh, however, to caſt the leaſt reflection on that body, but jointly with them to report to the Magiſtrates ſuch poor as have not reſidence, and to obtain orders for their removal, which they conceive would be beſt done from townſhip to townſhip, as far as the caſe may require; that many perſons come among us, who have no real place of reſidence in this or any other ſtate of the Union; that the employing all ſuch paupers who are able to work would be of utility; that they conceive one general law would beſt anſwer the purpoſes intended, as the laws now in force are ſo very complex as to occaſion frequent doubts; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill for the better government of the poor, and to repeal the laws now exiſting on that ſubject.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Memorials and petitions from near one thouſand inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, repreſenting, that a law enabling certain Commiſſioners therein named to ſell the old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*, and to erect a new one more central in ſaid county, was ſo far carried into execution, that the old court-houſe, priſon and work-houſe were actually ſold and conveyed, and a new one nearly compleated at the *Turk*'s *Head*, in or near the center of the county, when the predeceſſors of the preſent Houſe, actuated more by the principles of a party ſpirit, than a regard to the intereſt and conveniency of the community or county at large, paſſed ſomething into a law, which they called a ſuſpending law, but which the petitioners conceive to have every effect of a repeal, a ſuſpenſion without limitation; that the new buildings are in a ruinous ſituation, the roof being open in many parts; that the floors, and even inſide, all muſt in a ſhort time be of little value; thereſore praying that the ſaid ſuſpending law may be repealed, that the buildings aforeſaid may be compleated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, read in the late Houſe *November* 16th and *February* 5th laſt, praying a reviſion of the penal laws, and that puniſhments may be made more proportionate to crimes, were called up, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Lewis Nicola*, read *November* 2d, was read the ſecond time, together with an act paſſed by the ſtate of *New-York*, ſimilar to the one requeſted by him.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *Lutz*, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts ſubmitted an eſtimate of the ſum of money that would be requiſite for the purchaſe of fire-wood for the preſent ſeſſion, and recommended that an order be drawn for the ſame in favour of the Door-keeper: Whereupon

A debate enſued on the preſent mode of defraying the contingent expences of the Houſe, and after a conſiderable time ſpent therein,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Morris*,

That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, in favour of the Clerk, for the purpoſe of defraying the contingent expences of this Houſe, he to be accountable.

Moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

That the ſaid motion be poſtponed; which was

Carried in the negative.

The original motion was then adopted.

The committee to whom were referred, *November* 1ſt, the letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Virginia*, relative to the laying out a road through this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the memorial of *James Parr* and others, and the letter from *Thomas Bartow*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Member who preſented the propoſals of *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the Minutes of this Houſe, was, on application, permitted to withdraw the ſame.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees therein named to* "*ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and apply the monies ariſing there-* "*from towards the building of a Parſonage-houſe, for the uſe of the Miniſter for* "*the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* James, *in the bo-* "*rough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time yeſterday forenoon, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees therein named to* "*ſell and diſpoſe of two certain tracts or parcels of glebe lands and premiſes, ſitu-* "*ate in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *and to ſecure the* "*annual intereſt ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the maintenance and ſup-* "*port of the Miniſter for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of* "*St.* John, *upon* Pequea," which was read the firſt time yeſterday forenoon, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for publi confideration.

The order of the day, *viz.* for the choice of Printers of the Laws and Minutes for the current year, was called for, and read.

On motion, The ſeveral petitions, *&c.* of the Printers, preſented this forenoon, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum,*

To poſtpone the order of the day; and

Carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the choice of Printers for the current year.

On motion of Mr. *Hannum,* ſeconded by Mr. *Moore,*

Reſolved, That the Houſe proceed now to aſcertain and reſolve how man copies of their Laws and Minutes are to be printed: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum,*

That five hundred copies of the Laws, and five hundred copies of the Minutes, be printed for the current year.

Moved by Mr. *Smilie,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Todd,* by way of amendmen to the ſaid motion,

That the words "*five hundred,*" after the word "*That,*" be ſtruck ou in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "*fifteen hundred;*" and that th words "*five hundred,*" after the word "*and,*" be ſtruck out, in order to inſert the words "*twelve hundred,*" which was

Carried in the affirmative.

The original motion, as amended, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Ordered, That fifteen hundred copies of the Laws, and twelve hundred copies of the Minutes, be printed for the current year.

Moved by Mr. *Orth,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Logan,*

That four hundred copies of the Minutes, part of the twelve hundred copies, be printed in the *German* language.

After ſome debate, it was moved by Mr. *Miller,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Huble*

To commit the laſt motion; which was

Carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Miller,* Mr. *Trexler* and M *Orth,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 1ſt, reported a bil entituled "*A Supplement to the Act to provide further regulations, whereby* "*ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-Office, and in the ſurveying* "*lands,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 5, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executi Council, addreſſed to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia,* *November* 3, 1785.

SIR,

A PETITION was ſome days ſince preſented to this Board by *Si Keeſor,* and thirty-four others, natives of *China* and *Bengal,* and la part of the crew of the *Pallas* Indiaman, ſtating,—" that they had been con

" pell

" pelled by force of arms to navigate the ſhip aforeſaid from *Batavia*, in the
" *Eaſt-Indies*, to *Baltimore*, in *Maryland*;—that in the courſe of their paſſage
" they were otherwiſe much ill-treated by *John O Donnell*, their Captain;—
" that, wiſhing to return to their friends and country, they had come hither,
" in the proſpect of being able to get a paſſage in Captain *Truxtun*;—that
" finding that impracticable, and being now without money, and at once un-
" accuſtomed to the manners, language and climate of this country, they were
" induced to pray for the interpoſition of government, and beg from it ſuch
" ſupply of food and cloathing, as, under theſe circumſtances, Council might
" think proper to grant."

Viewing it as a matter of ſome importance, that theſe people ſhould not be permitted to carry home with them any well founded prejudice againſt either the juſtice or humanity of theſe United States, Council have come to two reſolutions upon it:—The firſt, That a copy of their petition ſhould be tranſmitted to the Governor of *Maryland*, with a requeſt, that meaſures might be taken to inveſtigate the facts relating to their treatment by Captain *O Donnell*, and, if injured, that juſtice might be done them:—The ſecond, That the General Aſſembly ſhould be requeſted to make ſuch proviſion for them, as may be neceſſary to their immediate health and comfort.

I am, with great regard,
SIR,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
B. FRANKLIN.

The Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq*;
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Foulke* have leave of abſence on account of the death of one of his relations.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, praying that a law may be paſſed for declaring *Aughwick* creek a public highway, and to abate all obſtructions that now are or that may be erected acroſs the ſaid creek, which were read in the late Houſe *Auguſt* 29th, were called up, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bradford* was read, praying to be continued Printer of Bills and Laws, and ſtating the prices at which he would print the ſame, if appointed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Aitkin* was read, praying to be appointed Printer of the Laws, and annexing the terms at which he would print the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Propoſals from *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the Minutes of this Houſe, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Lahn* was read, praying to be appointed Tranſlator of the Laws and Minutes, in caſe the Houſe ſhould determine to publiſh them in the *German* language.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from the Truſtees, Elders and Deacons of the *German* Reformed congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, for and in behalf of ſaid congregation, which was read the firſt time *November* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The memorial of *Whitehead Humphreys*, read *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Watts*, to report thereon.

The petition from divers inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton*, and *Forks* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, compoſing one diſtrict in electing Juſtices of the Peace, which was read in the late Houſe *February* 15th, was called up and read, ſetting forth, that for want of a proviſion being made in the law reſpecting the election of Juſtices of the Peace, for the appointment of other Aſſiſtant Judges at ſuch election where the firſt refuſe to officiate, they are deprived of an opportunity of chooſing a Juſtice for their diſtrict; therefore praying that a ſupplement may be paſſed to the ſaid law, enabling the inhabitants of the ſeveral diſtricts to chooſe other Aſſiſtant Judges, where the firſt refuſe to ſerve.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, made a report, which was read; and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the memorial of *James Parr* and others, and the letter from *Thomas Bartow*; which was read the firſt time *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

" The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *James Parr* and others, together with a letter from *Thomas Bartow*, praying an exemption from the payment of certain duties, report——

" That in their opinion the memorialiſts, if compelled to pay the duties they complain of, will be ſubjected to a degree of hardſhip the Legiſlature of this ſtate never meant to impoſe.

" Your committee therefore beg leave to recommend the appointment of a ſpecial committee, to bring in a bill, empowering the Collector of the Cuſtoms, with the advice and permiſſion of the Supreme Executive Council, to grant relief to ſuch perſons as are or may be ſubjected to manifeſt injuſtice from the operation of the impoſt laws now in force, contrary to the ſpirit and true intent of the ſame."

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

To re-commit the ſaid report; and

Carried in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *Hannum*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Hand*,

That the ſaid report be poſtponed; which was

Carried in the negative.

The queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid report?"—was then put, and

Carried in the negative.

The report on the memorial of the managers of the State Lottery, read this forenoon, was, on motion and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the committee appointed on the ſaid memorial be a committee to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of the ſame.

The order of the day was called for and read.

On motion, The ſeveral petitions and propoſitions of the Printers, read yeſterday and this forenoon, were again read.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Printer of the Minutes, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that Meſſieurs *Hall* and *Sellers* were duly elected.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, Mr. *Thomas Bradford* Printer of the Bills that may be ordered to be publiſhed for conſideration, and of the Laws to be publiſhed in the News-papers.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

Ordered, That the reſidue of the order of the day, *viz.* the appointment of a Printer of the Laws in pamphlets, be poſtponed.

On motion of the laſt named gentlemen,

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Carothers*, be a committee, for the purpoſe of conferring with Mr. *Robert Aitkin* and Mr. *Thomas Bradford*, and for receiving from them any further propoſitions for printing the Laws in pamphlets, that they may think proper to make.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 7, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, addreſſed to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia*, *November* 7, 1785.

SIR,

THE incloſed papers relate to the diſturbances now exiſting at *Wyoming*, in the county of *Northumberland*. As theſe may probably become a ſubject of legiſlative conſideration, Council have thought proper to tranſmit this farther information to the Houſe.

I am, Sir,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
B. FRANKLIN, *Preſident.*

The Honorable SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſures were alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, encloſing a ſtate of the payments which have been made by this commonwealth, on account of the exiſting requiſitions of the United States, and the balances yet due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation and petition from a number of the inhabitants of *York* county, contiguous to that of *Cumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that they labour under great hardſhips in conſequence of part of the preſent diviſion line between the two ſaid counties, whereby many of them have more than double the diſtance to go, to tranſact their neceſſary buſineſs at their county town, than they otherwiſe would have, was a juſt and equitable diviſion to take place; that to this may be added, that the roads to *York* are rough and broken with mountains, and in the winter ſeaſon very miry, and the two *Connewagoes* are often deep and rapid, whereas thoſe to *Carliſle* are ſmooth and dry, neither interrupted with difficult waters or mountains; therefore praying the

Houſe to eſtabliſh a line of diviſion between the ſaid counties, agreeably to the courſe pointed out in the ſaid petition, as it would obviate the inconveniencies complained of.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Sebaſtian Stonemire* was read, ſetting forth, that *Paul Stonemire*, ſon of the petitioner, when under the age of twenty-one years, enliſted in the ſecond *Pennſylvania* regiment, commanded by Colonel *Stuart*, ſome time in or about the month of *May*, 1779; that he continued in the ſervice until the 30th day of *March*, 1781, and then died; that at the time of his death he was poſſeſſed of a certificate for pay due to him, amounting to *thirty-four pounds two ſhillings and one penny*, which certificate was numbered 36; that about the time of his death, his pocket book, which contained the ſaid certificate, was ſtolen or loſt; that the petitioner is informed that five months pay was alſo due to his ſaid ſon, which became due after the date of the ſaid certificate; that the petitioner apprehends himſelf juſtly entitled to whatever ſums of money may be due to his ſon, the ſaid *Paul Stonemire*; and encloſing his depoſition of the facts therein ſet forth; therefore praying the Houſe to take his caſe into conſideration, and direct payment to be made to the petitioner.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowry*, Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Todd*, and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The pĕtition of *Matthew Carey*, read *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time; and after ſome debate thereon,

It was moved by Mr. *Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and

Carried in the affirmative.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, to confer with Mr. *Robert Aitkin* and Mr. *Thomas Bradford*, Printers, made a report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

That they have conferred with the ſaid gentlemen, and that Mr. *Robert Aitkin* has declined the printing for the preſent year; that they have received a letter from Mr. *Bradford*, ſtating the price at which he will undertake the work, which they lay before the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Comptroller-General, and encloſure, read this afternoon, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee on ways and means.

The petition from *Andrew Bunner*, praying that his brother Colonel *Rudolph Bunner*'s pay, depreciation and gratuities, may be allowed, which was read in the late Houſe *March* 21ſt, was called up and read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from His Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting certain natives of *India* now here, which was read *November* 5th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Atlee*,

The Houſe adopted the following, *viz.*

Whereas it appears, by a letter from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, that there are now in this city a number of diſtreſſed perſons, natives of *China* and *India*, who, from their habits and want of knowledge of our language, are incapable of acquiring a livelihood, or the means of returning to their native country:

Therefore *Reſolved*, That the Preſident, or Vice-Preſident, and Supreme Executive Council, be authoriſed and requeſted to adminiſter ſuch relief and ſupport to the diſtreſſed perſons aforeſaid, as their preſent ſituation may require.

Mr. *Hubley*, having previouſly read it in his place, after leave given, preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act enabling the inhabitants of the county of* Lancaſter *to hold an election for a Commiſſioner of the ſaid county, to ſupply the place of one Commiſſioner become ineligible by means of the diviſion of ſaid county*," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Purſuant to leave granted, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Reformed congregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 8, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Grand Jury of the city of *Philadelphia*, at the Quarter Seſſions of the Peace held for the ſaid city, *October* term 1785, was read, ſetting forth, that the memorialiſts, in diſcharging their duty as *Grand Jurors* for the city of *Philadelphia*, have ſeen with concern the great degree to which vice and immorality abound, as well as the danger of their increaſe; that the uncommon number of *bills* for aſſault and battery, keeping of tippling-houſes, *&c.* which they have found at this ſeſſion, are melancholy proofs of the depravity of morals which too generally prevails; that they have reaſon to believe that there is a conſtant influx of vagabonds from the neighbouring ſtates, who, encouraged to hope for a more plentiful harveſt of plunder in this metropolis, reſort here, where they may alſo be better concealed in their villainies by wretches as abandoned as themſelves; the puniſhment of labouring hard, chained to wheel-barrows, which has been ſubſtituted in the city of *New-York* inſtead of whipping, has probably driven many here, to avoid what they dread more than a *thouſand ſtripes*; that they think it their duty, in a particular manner to repreſent to the Houſe the great injury ariſing to the morals of many from billiard-tables, ſhuffle-boards, and other contrivances for gaming; the dangers to youth from billiard-tables can be better imagined than deſcribed; a love for gaming, a waſte of time, and perhaps of money not their own, form part of the alarming catalogue—families are expoſed to ruin by the faſcinating power of this game, inſomuch that many men, forgetting the duty they owe to their wives, their children, and to their creditors, ſpend moſt of their time at this deſtructive diverſion; that inſtead of a general attention to the neatneſs, cleanlineſs and health of the city, the ſtreets are incumbered with dirt and filth, and ſo obſtructed by articles of trade and manufacture, ſawing of wood upon the foot ways, *&c.* that the paſſage along them is frequently attended with the greateſt difficulty and danger; that the memorialiſts beg leave to ſuggeſt to the Houſe, that they are humbly of opinion that the vices, immoralities, obſtructions, nuſances, *&c.* already enumerated, with many others that are daily encreaſing, proceed from a want of energy in the ſeveral departments appointed by the laws now in being for managing the public concerns of *Philadelphia*; the vaſt encreaſe of inhabitants has greatly added to the buſineſs aſſigned to thoſe departments, and as the perſons of whom they are compoſed are few in number, and have their private affairs to attend to, they cannot employ a ſufficient portion of their time in the public ſervice; therefore praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and reſtore *Philadelphia* to the dignity of a city (which it now enjoys only in name) by granting an act of incorporation, whereby its inhabitants may be authoriſed to make ſuch bye-laws for their internal government, not incompatible with the laws of the ſtate, as ſhall from time to time become neceſſary, and for which they cannot at all times have recourſe to the Legiſlature.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Amos Thomas*, one of the Executors of the laſt will and teſtament of *Thomas Thomas*, late of *Hilltown*, in the county of *Bucks*, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that the abovenamed *Thomas Thomas*, in his life-time, was a creditor of *John Cuſtard*, late of *Penn* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, and ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and the ſaid *Cuſtard* became attainted of Treaſon, by which the whole eſtate of the ſaid *John Cuſtard* was declared forfeited to the commonwealth, and at the time of the ſaid attainder and forfeiture, the ſaid *John Cuſtard* was indebted unto the ſaid *Thomas Thomas* in the ſum of *two hundred pounds*, with lawful intereſt on the ſame from the 10th of *April*, 1775, for the ſecurity of which ſaid ſum a mortgage deed was given on a certain tract or piece of land, ſituate in the county of *Bucks*, and ſtate aforeſaid, for which ſaid ſum the ſaid *Thomas Thomas* filed his claim, which ſaid claim was allowed on the 21ſt of *September*, 1779, and an order was iſſued afterwards for the ſaid money to be paid; that the petitioner, at the requeſt of the ſaid *Thomas Thomas*, did apply for payment of the ſum aforeſaid, and about the 8th or 10th of *December*, 1779, did receive the ſum decreed, being *two hundred and fifty-ſix pounds*, or thereabouts, being the principal and intereſt then due; and at the time that the ſaid money was received out of the public treaſury of this ſtate, the depreciation was forty one and an half for one, which ſaid ſum did not amount to much more than *ſix pounds*, hard money; that the ſaid *Thomas Thomas*, in a ſhort time after the ſaid money was received, departed this life, and having made his laſt will and teſtament in writing ſome time before, bequeathed ſeveral legacies to his children; and that by the depreciation of the ſaid money, ſome of the minor children of the ſaid *Thomas Thomas* have loſt the whole of the legacies that were bequeathed unto them; and that ſome time after the ſaid money was received, the real eſtate of the ſaid *John Cuſtard* (that was confiſcated) was ſold for *four hundred pounds*, hard money, as the petitioner has been informed; and as the ſaid eſtate was ſold for hard money, your petitioner cannot conceive that it will be any injuſtice to the commonwealth, if the ſaid money ſhould be made up in hard to the eſtate of the deceaſed; therefore praying, in behalf of the ſaid legatees, that he may be allowed to come in as other lawful claimants againſt forfeited eſtates, for the value of the ſaid money, that was juſtly due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Manaſſa Thomas* was read, ſetting forth, that *John Cuſtard, Edward Jones* and *Joſhua Thomas* became ſeverally attainted of treaſon, whereby their ſeveral eſtates were declared forfeited to the commonwealth; that at the time of the ſaid attainders and forfeitures, the ſaid *John Cuſtard, Edward Jones* and *Joſhua Thomas* were indebted to the petitioner, in the ſeveral ſums of money mentioned in the claims of the petitioner againſt their ſeveral eſtates, which ſaid claims are now remaining filed in the Supreme Court of this commonwealth; that the act of Aſſembly having limited a certain period, within which the ſeveral claimants under the eſtates of attainted perſons were directed to bring in and depoſit their claims, or relief could not be granted;

that the petitioner, not knowing at the time of paſſing ſaid act of ſuch limitation, did not until after the expiration of the time limited therein bring in his ſaid claims, whereby he has unfortunately loſt the benefit of the ſame; therefore prays the Houſe to take his caſe into conſideration, and order his ſaid claims to be allowed, if the ſame ſhall upon examination be found to be juſt and true.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Hazelwood*, junior, in behalf of his brother *Thomas Hazelwood*, late Captain in the navy of this ſtate, which was read the firſt time *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph Blancher*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, which was read in the late Houſe *September* 17th, was called up and read, ſetting forth, that a certificate for *thirty-four pounds four ſhillings and one penny* was iſſued him by Mr. *Nicholſon*, for his ſervices in the army; that by the breaking up of the ice in the river *Suſquehanna*, on the 25th of *March*, 1784, the petitioner loſt his cloaths, among which was the ſaid certificate; therefore praying the Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers freemen and freeholders, inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton*, and *Forks* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, compoſing one diſtrict in electing Juſtices of the Peace, which was read the firſt time *November* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Trail*, to report thereon.

The petitions from divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, praying a reviſion of the penal laws, which were read the firſt time *November* 4th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Salter*, to report thereon.

The petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, which was read the firſt time *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Lowry*, to report thereon.

The memorials and addreſſes from a conſiderable number of the freeholders and others, inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, which were read the firſt time *November* 3d, were read the ſecond time; Whereupon

Moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

That the ſaid memorials, together with all other papers on the files of this Houſe relating to this ſubject, be referred to a committee of a member from each county; which was

Carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon *Ordered*, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *A. Erwin*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Atlee*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Carothers*, Mr. *Gehr*, Mr. *Trail*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Hughes*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smilie*, Mr. *Rhea*, Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *Bradley*, be the committee for the above purpoſe.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was read, requeſting to be re-appointed Treaſurer of the ſtate, in caſe the Houſe ſhould go into ſuch an appointment, as they have generally done annually.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was referred, *November* 5th, the motion relating to the printing of the Laws and Minutes in the *German* language, made a report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the letter from His Excellency the Governor of *Virginia*, relative to the laying out a road through this ſtate, which was read the firſt time *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Carothers*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hand*, be a committee, for the purpoſe of preparing and bringing in a bill, to enable the Commiſſioners of *Virginia* and *Maryland* for opening the navigation of *Potowmack*, to lay open a road through that part of this ſtate which lies between the navigable waters of *Potowmack* and *Ohio*, with the ſeveral proviſions contained in the letter of the ſaid Commiſſioners.

The report of the committee, to whom was referred the motion relating to the printing of the laws and minutes in the *German* language, which was read the firſt time this afternoon, was, on motion and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed, and that Mr. *Will* be added to the committee.

The report of the committee appointed to confer with Mr. *Robert Aitkin* and Mr. *Thomas Bradford*, which was read the firſt time yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

" That they have conferred with the ſaid gentlemen, and that Mr. *Robert Aitkin* has declined the printing for the preſent year; they herewith preſent a letter from Mr. *Bradford*, ſtating the price at which he will undertake the printing of the laws."

The letter alluded to in ſaid report was alſo read: Whereupon

The Houſe proceeded, by ballot, to the election of a Printer of the laws in pamphlets for the enſuing year, when Mr. *Thomas Bradford* was unanimouſly elected.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the petition of *Lewis Nicola*, made a report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for eſtabliſhing certain rules and regulations for obtaining a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, and to fix the time when the returns ſhall be made, ſo that this Houſe may be enabled to appoint a repreſentation for the next ſeven years, agreeably to the directions of the ſeventeenth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Miller*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

That the foregoing motion be committed; and

Carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

Moved by Mr. *Wayne*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Watts*,

That a committee be appointed to reviſe the law, declaring the river *Suſquehanna* and other ſtreams therein named public highways, and for improving the navigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams, paſſed the 9th *March*, 1771, and the ſupplement thereto, paſſed the 31ſt *March*, 1785, and to report a bill, which ſhall have for its object the more perfect improvement of the navigation

vigation of the ſaid river and ſtreams, and alſo, in concurrence with the ſtates of *Maryland* and *Delaware*, the improvement of the navigation between the waters of the *Cheſapeak* and *Delaware* by a canal, on principles of reciprocity.

Moved by Mr. *Smilie*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill*,

That the ſaid motion be referred to a committee of a member from each county; which was

Carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Lowry*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Creigh*, Mr. *Lincoln*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smilie*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, and Mr. *Krouſe*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Loller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Wayne*, Mr. *Hand*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee, to bring in a bill to regulate the militia of this commonwealth.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation be-*" *longing to St.* Peter'*s Church, in the* Great Valley, *in the townſhip of* Tre-" dyffrin, *and county of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time *November* 3d, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 9, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Remonſtrances and petitions from nine hundred and ten freeholders and others, proprietors of, intereſted in, and affected by the ſhad and other fiſheries on the river *Schuylkill*, were read, ſetting forth, that they conceive that they will be grievouſly injured and oppreſſed in their property and conſtitutional rights, by an act paſſed the 26th of *March* laſt, entituled "*An Act to*" *regulate the fiſhery in the river* Schuylkill;" which appears to have been ſo ſuddenly paſſed into a law, that it was impoſſible for even thoſe who live in the vicinity of the city to have known of its being in agitation; for it appears, that though the Honorable Houſe directed its publication for conſideration on the 15th of *March* (a period too very ſhort for the information of thoſe affected by it) yet it was not actually publiſhed until the 26th, the day of its paſſing into a law; that the petitioners conceive the owners of fiſheries, in common with others, have a juſt and undoubted right to employ their own labours, and to make uſe of the means which God and nature have offered them, for the improvement of their property, either by land or water, ſo far as they do not injure the community at large; and although our bounteous Creator in his divine law hath ſaid, "Six days ſhalt thou work and labour," yet this law ſays we ſhall work and labour four nights only in the week, where there is a ſingle owner or property in a pool or fiſhery, and but two nights, where perſons reſide oppoſite to each other, having ſeparate property, and drawing their nets and ſeines alternately in the ſame pool or fiſhery; that the owners of fiſheries are obliged to hire their hands, at high wages, for the whole ſeaſon, or by the month, on a ſuppoſition of there being ſix days or nights work in the week, and muſt pay them according to their ſtipulation, although they ſhould only work for two days, moſt of the owners of fiſheries having no other employment at that ſeaſon for the hands ſo engaged; and as the ſeaſons are frequently very late, on account of the freſhes in the river, i is probable that in thoſe pools, wherein the fiſhing is to be alternate, the owners cannot have above twelve or thirteen nights to employ their hands durin the whole of the ſhad ſeaſon; that the petitioners, according to the information many of them have received, and the actual knowledge of others, cannot but be ſurpriſed at ſeveral of the ſtatements which were made of ſuppoſe facts to the Honorable Houſe, as motives for paſſing the bill; among theſe that of there being ſeveral nets uſed at the ſame fiſhery was artfully miſrepreſented; true it is, that ſome of the owners of fiſheries have more than on net, to ſuit the local ſituation of their pools, which are deeper at one tim than at others, but having only one ſett of hands, only one net can be uſe in the ſame day or night's fiſhing, and any ſuggeſtion that one net is run ou as ſoon as the other is landed is entirely groundleſs; in the tide-waters, wher the herring fiſhery can be carried on to advantage, nets ought to be allowed calculated for this kind of fiſhery; and it is well known to be very uncommon for ſhad to be caught in nets calculated for taking of herring; that th allowing twenty days difference between the end of the ſhad-fiſhery in th lower parts of *Schuylkill* and the upper parts, we conſider as an unjuſt and partial diſtinction, wholly unneceſſary, and very hurtful to the brood of fiſh, becauſe the whole ſhad-fiſhing ought in juſtice and propriety to ceaſe at the ſam time, as it may begin at the ſame time generally in all places, and often begins ſooner in the upper than in the lower parts of the river; and the ſpawning ſeaſon is known to be nearly the ſame through the whole river; no perſons ſhould therefore be allowed to fiſh longer for ſhad than until about th 27th, or, at fartheſt, the laſt of *May*; therefore praying the Houſe to tak the premiſes into conſideration, and grant ſuch relief as may be juſt and reſonable, that the owners of fiſheries may not be deprived of the right of freel uſing their property, ſo as not to injure the public, that the poor may not b deprived of the yearly and ſeaſonable relief which the waters adjoining then afford, at a ſeaſon when other proviſions are at the higheſt rates, and tha the ſupplies to the city, to people of all circumſtances, may not be diminiſhed by throwing obſtacles in the way of thoſe whoſe ſituation alone enables then in this way to furniſh them, in order to give ſuppoſed advantages to thoſe to diſtant to afford any ſuch ſupplies.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions ſigned by near 1500 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, read in the late Houſe *March* 9th, were called up and read, ſetting fort the many inconveniences that ariſe from the ſeat of juſtice being held at *Eaſton* a place very uncentral, and praying leave to bring in a bill for removing th ſeat of juſtice to *Northampton-town*, commonly called *Allen-town*, or ſuc other place as may be judged proper; or in caſe the Houſe ſhould not determine to remove the ſeat of juſtice, to grant them leave to bring in a bill fo dividing the ſaid county, as the Houſe ſhall think proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſq; Chief Juſtice, in behalf of himſelf and the Aſſiſtant Judges of the Supreme Court, which wa read in the late Houſe *March* 28th, was called up and read, praying that th Houſe would allow them for the depreciation on their ſalaries, and incloſin a ſtatement of the ſalaries granted them at various periods, the ſums of money they have received, the ſpecie value thereof, and the balance due them o the principle of depreciation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Blancher*, read the firſt time yeſterday, was read th ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Trail*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Moore*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Clingan*, read in the late Houſe *Auguſt* 30th, was called up and read, ſetting forth the loſs of a ſoldier's certificate for *eighty-eight pounds thirteen ſhillings and one penny*, by him purchaſed, and praying a new certificate may be granted him in lieu of the one he hath loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid petition was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed on the petition of *Joſeph Blancher*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Sebaſtian Stonemire*, read *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on the petitions of *Joſeph Blancher* and *William Clingan*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Blackall William Ball*, read in the late Houſe *February* 18th, was called up and read, praying the Houſe to grant him a certificate, in lieu of one he hath loſt, for *two hundred and twenty pounds twelve ſhillings and ſeven-pence*, and incloſing his depoſition of the ſaid loſs.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed on the petitions of *Joſeph Blancher*, *William Clingan* and *Sebaſtian Stonemire*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Andrew Bunner*, read *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *John Hazelwood*, junior.

The petition of *Robert Hardie*, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, which were read in the late Houſe *Auguſt* 31ſt, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Morris*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *M'Conaughy*, to report thereon.

The letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, read the firſt time yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned, for the choice of a Treaſurer of the State for the enſuing year.

The committee appointed *November* 7th, on the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, made a report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſquire, Judge of Admiralty, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Hannum*, after leave granted, read in his place a bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* James Walter *in certain meſſuages, tenements and tracts of land, ſituated and being in* Kennet *townſhip*, Cheſter *county*;" and having preſented the ſame to the Chair, it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Reformed Congregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," which was read the firſt time *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act enabling the inhabitants of the county of* Lan-

" caſter *to hold an election for a Commiſſioner of the ſaid county, to ſupply the* " *place of one Commiſſioner become ineligible by means of the diviſion of ſaid* " *county*," which was read the firſt time *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time; and

On the queſtion—" Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs?"
It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 10, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from ſundry owners and tenants of the houſes and lots on both ſides of *High-ſtreet*, between *Delaware Third* and *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioners are once more alarmed by divers petitions of inhabitants of the city and country, pretending it would be much for the good or convenience of the public if ſhambles ſhould be erected before the doors of your petitioners, ſo as they ſhould be deprived of the air, the proſpect, and other advantages of the largeſt ſtreet of the city, and inſtead thereof accommodated with a narrow cart-way, wherefore they pray your Honorable Houſe for a law to enlarge and further extend the market-place in *High-ſtreet*; that the petitioners beg leave to remonſtrate, that they claim the right of an open ſtreet, one hundred feet wide, under the proprietary charter of the city of *Philadelphia*, granted in the year 1701, in theſe words—" I do, for me, my heirs and aſſigns, grant and ordain, that the ſtreets of the ſaid city ſhall for ever continue as they are now laid out and regulated."—That it is notorious, that at that time *High-ſtreet* was from *Delaware* to *Schuylkill* of the width of one hundred feet, and at ſuch time as your petitioners at the higheſt rates given for city lots purchaſed their reſpective lots, or built houſes thereon, or hired houſes or ſtores, they acquired the right of having a ſtreet of ſuch dimenſions as were fixed in the city plan twenty-one years before the date of the charter; and indeed the whole country, eſpecially to the weſtward, bringing in their produce over the *Middle-ferry* to *Water-ſtreet*, where it is ſhipped or ſtored, and return goods given them at freight, are deeply intereſted in having the ſaid *High-ſtreet*'s original breadth continued unobſtructed; that ſome time in the year 1721, the Court-Houſe and a few butchers ſhambles were built from *Second-ſtreet* half way to *Third-ſtreet*; then the citizens, too careleſs of their rights, or awed by the power and influence of the Mayor and Commonalty of the city, ſuffered their ſaid rights to be taken from them; by the ſaid power and influence of the ſaid Corporation, the market-houſes were afterwards continued to the line of *Third-ſtreet*, and a new market, called the *Jerſey* market, eſtabliſhed all the way from *Second-ſtreet* to *Third-ſtreet*; but when, in the year 1773, the aforeſaid Corporation attempted to build a range of ſtalls from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtreet*, the inhabitants of *High-ſtreet* houſes in that ſquare, ſupported by a large number of citizens of reſpectable characters, firſt remonſtrated to the ſaid Corporation the injury and oppreſſion which they were about to do to their fellow-citizens, and freely declared that they could not ſubmit to ſuch inſults on their liberties; and when the Corporation had erected the piers, the inhabitants, conſidering this as a nuiſance in the high-way, removed them in a few minutes; whereupon the Corporation brought ſuits againſt ſeveral perſons concerned in the abating their nuiſance; the action continued from term to term in the Supreme Court undetermined till the revolution, whereby the

Proprietaries charter of the city of *Philadelphia*, as far as it concerns the government of the ſame, was doubtleſs vacated, agreeably to the 5th ſection of the declaration of rights; but not a jot of the rights of the citizens, or of the country at large, held by this or any other Proprietary charter, was thereby taken off, ſequeſtered, or left to the Legiſlature at their diſpoſal; no, to the contrary, the firſt paragraph of the declaration of rights, the whole ſpirit thereof, and the 46th ſection of the conſtitution, are ſufficient to ſecure the petitioners and all mens right to *High-ſtreet*, and all other ſtreets of the city, ſo as they were firſt laid out in the city plan; that the ſubſcribers of the adverſe city petition, twenty-one in number, are pleaſed to refer the honorable Houſe to divers petitions ſubſcribed by a multitude of inhabitants, and preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, for extending the market; that the now petitioners had at that time ſeveral thouſand petitioners on their ſide, but decline to count the ſigners to the petitions of both ſides, becauſe an inference from a plurality of ſuitors to a petition is an argument falſe and nugatory; for if ten thouſand citizens would unite againſt one ſingle man, to take from him or abridge the leaſt of his inherent rights to property, without he had forfeited the ſame, the Legiſlature, no more than the Courts of Juſtice, can or may conſtitutionally ſacrifice the one to gratify the thouſands; upon which grounds the laſt Houſe of Aſſembly, by a majority of votes, determined on the ſide of the petitioners, and that the petitioners have full reliance on the protection of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Andrew Greble*, junior, was read, ſetting forth, that he has languiſhed under confinement in the goal of this city, for debts due for houſe rent, near ſix months, ſuffering great diſtreſs; that by reaſon of loſſes, and the ſickneſs of himſelf and family, he is rendered unable to diſcharge the ſame debts; therefore praying the Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the freeholders (only) inhabitants of the townſhip of *Byberry*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioners obſerve by the conſtitution of this government, that all the inhabitants are entitled in common to equal privileges as freemen, and that in direct contradiction to this ineſtimable doctrine, in which moſt certainly are involved all the rights of man, they with pain obſerve, that they moſt grievouſly feel the operation of a teſt-law, now in force among us, by which not only the petitioners, but a very great and reſpectable part of the community, ſtand abridged of all thoſe privileges which every citizen of a virtuous commonwealth ſhould, and (they hope they cannot offend if they ſay) ought of right to enjoy; and laſtly they take the liberty to mention, that among the freeholders at preſent reſiding in the ſaid townſhip, they believe it will appear (taking the laſt aſſeſſment as the guide) that there are not more than three freemen at preſent among them; that hoping they are at this time addreſſing a Houſe that neither wants wiſdom nor juſtice, renders it unneceſſary to dwell any longer on this diſagreeable part of their ſituation, than barely to obſerve, that never ſince the revolution has the townſhip been able, within its own limits, to furniſh the public with officers, properly qualified to execute the different offices which the laws have and do require, the conſequence of which has been, that aſſeſſors, collectors, *&c.* have been ſent among them from other places (ſome of whom were wholly unknown to them, and whom they have never ſeen ſince) and have taken their property in ſuch a manner as to be guilty of the moſt attrocious acts of cruelty and rapaciouſneſs, and that at this time both the collector and aſſeſſor are inhabitants of another townſhip; which laſt circumſtance they mention, not to caſt any illiberal reflection on him, who univerſally bears an upright character, but to ſhew what an unfortunate ſituation the townſhip is reduced to, and how neceſſary it is for the public good to relieve them; that they are perfectly willing, on their parts, that all things paſt may be forgotten, and that the injuries they conceive they have received from many may be buried in future ſilence; that on the other hand, if there has been any thing which to ſome hath not appeared right on their ſide, they hope they are intitled to the ſame indulgence, eſpecially as they can ſay, that their conduct has been ſincerely regulated by pure dictates of conſcience; that from all the above circumſtances, they truſt it requires that their hardſhips only want to be properly heard, to be redreſſed; that they therefore take the liberty to look up to the Houſe as humane guardians, into whoſe hands are committed the ſacred rights of their country, and earneſtly deſire that the Houſe would take the premiſes into conſideration, and be pleaſed to grant that relief to ſo dangerous a grievance, as the conſtitution, wiſdom, and good conſcience will dictate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the *Great Cove*, in *Bedford* county, was read, ſetting forth the many inconveniencies they labour under, from their great diſtance from the county town, the difficulties of the roads leading there, and praying, that as the county town of *Franklin* county is not above half as diſtant from them, and the roads preferable, that the Houſe would annex the *Great Cove* aforeſaid to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Neigal Gray*, of *Allen* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioner was bound in an obligation, in the ſum of *one thouſand pounds*, *Pennſylvania* currency, to a certain *John Taylor*, late of ſaid townſhip (ſince deceaſed) to make and execute a ſufficient deed in law for a certain plantation, which the ſaid *Taylor* ſold to a certain *Michael Kyper*, of ſaid townſhip; that the original deed for ſaid land was mortgaged in the loan-office of this ſtate; that the petitioner has often called and ſent to pay off all demands upon ſaid deed in the office, but that it could not be found, notwithſtanding the Honorable *David Rittenhouſe*, preſent keeper of ſaid office, made every poſſible ſearch, but to no good purpoſe; that when the petitioner was ſued for the performance of his obligation, he made application to the then Honorable Houſe, by petition, in *February* laſt, but has as yet obtained no redreſs; that the petitioner once more prays that the Houſe would take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant ſuch redreſs as to them may ſeem meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from the congregation of Seven-day Baptiſts, in *Cheſter* county, read *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

The remonſtrances and petitions from the freeholders, and others, proprietors of, intereſted in, and affected by the ſhad and other fiſheries on the river *Schuylkill*, which were read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The committee to whom was recommitted, *November* 4th, the report on the motion reſpecting the printing of the bills and minutes in the *German* language, made a report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed on the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, praying for payment of an account accompanying the ſaid memorial, report,——

That they have enquired into the circumſtances attending the caſe of the ſaid petitioners, and are of opinion that they ſhould be paid a reaſonable compenſation for the ſervice by them performed; and therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be directed to adjuſt and pay the account of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, for painting, *&c.* of the ſtate arms, here fixed over the ſeat of juſtice in the State-Houſe, and the other items ſtated in their account.

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?”—

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee appointed on the letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſq; Judge of Admiralty, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter of *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſq; Judge of the Admiralty, beg leave to report,——

That on examining and comparing the original manuſcript, lodged in the Rolls-Office, of the act for eſtabliſhing the Court of Admiralty Seſſions for the trial of offences committed on the high ſeas, with the ſame act in the printed volume, they have diſcovered the error which has crept into the latter to be as ſtated in the letter referred to them; they therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to prepare and bring in a bill for correcting the ſaid error.

On motion of Mr. *Loller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

Ordered, That the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Moved by Mr. *Clymer*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

That a committee be appointed, to conſider the expediency of veſting the Supreme Executive Council with the power of incorporating religious ſocieties or communities.

After ſome debate, it was

Ordered, That the foregoing motion lie on the table for conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the poor laws of this commonwealth*,” be diſmiſſed.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the regulation and employment of the poor, and to repeal the preſent laws on this ſubject.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Hannum*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Loller*, be the committee for the above purpoſe.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the act, entituled* “ An Act for raiſing the ſum of “ Forty-two Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public roads leading from “ the city of ***Philadelphia*** to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards the “ improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *James Edgar*, elected a member for *Waſhington* county, in excuſe for his non-attendance, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Moved by Mr. *Wayne*, and ſeconded by Mr. *J. Morris*,

That the abſent members be ſent for.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

The Supreme Executive Council tranſmitted the Journals of Congreſs for part of the months of *September* and *October*, and the ſtate of the repreſentation in Congreſs for the month of *October*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 11, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The memorial from the committee of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the law enacted by the late Houſe of Aſſembly for the encouragement of *American* manufactures will, in many inſtances, as they conceive, be attended with the moſt ſalutary effects, but that an error of ſome conſequence has crept into the buſineſs, from the numerous and important objects then before the Houſe; that the additional duties on the produce of *Portugal* appear to have been very wiſely impoſed, becauſe that kingdom prohibits the importation of *American* flour, and that they conceive this impoſt ſhould not have been extended to the wines of their iſlands, as thoſe iſlands receive freely almoſt every article of our produce; therefore praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and to make ſuch alterations as the circumſtances may require.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *James Brown*, *Philip Buck*, *Thomas Lieper* and *John Gilmore*, late officers in the navy of this ſtate, were ſeverally read, praying that they may be allowed the depreciation on their pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Mary Hance*, widow of *Jacob Hance*, and *Mary Prieſt*, widow of *John Prieſt*, were read, ſetting forth, that their ſaid huſbands ſerved as officers in the late navy of this ſtate, and praying that they may be entitled to the depreciation on their ſaid huſbands pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Neigal Gray*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Brown*, to report thereon.

The chairman of the committee appointed *November* 8th, on the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, having reported that the committee deem it neceſſary to have a conference with the Supreme Executive Council on that ſubject: Thereupon

Ordered, That the ſaid committee be inſtructed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, on the matters referred to them.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates, to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Charles Pettit*, *John Bayard*, *Arthur St. Clair*, *William Henry*, of *Lancaſter*, and *James Wilſon*, Eſquires, were duly elected.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 1ſt, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful* “ *gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petitions of *Joſeph Blancher, William Clingan, Sebaſtian Stonemire* and *Blackall William Ball,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the act, entituled* “ An Act for raiſ-“ ing the ſum of Forty-two Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public “ roads leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, “ and towards the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill,*” read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 12, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council, to the General Aſſembly, was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

BY the ſeventeenth ſection of the conſtitution, the General Aſſembly are directed to cauſe compleat liſts of the taxable inhabitants in each city and county in the commonwealth, reſpectively, to be taken and returned to them every ſeventh year from the year 1778, in order to regulate and apportion upon thoſe liſts the number of Repreſentatives to be choſen for the enſuing period. As this is a matter of importance, and falls upon the preſent year, it appears to us that it would be well to attend to it as ſoon as poſſible.

By the preſent criminal laws, fines are a part of the puniſhment for a variety of offences. Applications are continually made to us by the offenders for remiſſion of ſuch fines, and theſe applications are recommended by the Magiſtrates, on the ſole conſideration that the criminals, being poor and unable to pay, become, while detained in priſon, a charge to the public. As this is generally the caſe, the impoſition of fines is rendered ineffectual as a puniſhment, and the ſatisfaction due by the laws to the community from the offenders is not made. We therefore offer it for your conſideration, whether means may not be found to oblige them to pay by labour, what they are unable to pay in money; and whether this would not tend more to the prevention of offences, thoſe eſpecially which are committed through a vicious diſlike of labour. In the general reform of our penal laws, neceſſary in itſelf, and required by the thirty-eighth ſection of the conſtitution, this particular will properly come before you.

Eaſy communication between the different parts of a ſtate is one of the means that contribute to its wealth and proſperity. Our roads are generally bad, whereby the conveyance of our produce and merchandize to market is often obſtructed, delayed, or rendered more expenſive. If the repairing of roads was made a county charge, to be defrayed by a tax, and executed by contract, inſtead of being, as at preſent, an unequal burthen on the townſhips, we apprehend they would be kept in better order, and the public greatly benefited.

The eſtabliſhment of an improved ſyſtem of revenue is a matter that ſeems to us very neceſſary, and we therefore earneſtly recommend it to your conſideration.

The teſt-laws, however proper or neceſſary they may have been at the time and under the circumſtances in which they were made, are at preſent, on various accounts, the cauſe of much uneaſineſs in the ſtate. We are therefore of opinion that it is now expedient to reviſe them.

We ſhould ſooner have laid ſome of theſe matters before your honorable Houſe, but that we were unwilling to withdraw your attention from the important points recommended to you by Congreſs.

B. FRANKLIN, Preſident.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, November 11, 1785.

A petition from the *American* Philoſophical Society for promoting of uſeful knowledge was read, ſetting forth, that upon digging for cellars under the ground lately granted by a law of the late Aſſembly, for erecting buildings for the uſe of the ſaid Philoſophical Society, the ground was found to be ſo high, and the continuation of dry ſand ſo deep, as to admit the having a range of vaults, with a range of ſtores thereon, under the buildings intended for the accommodation of the ſaid Society, as will appear by a plan annexed; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, ſupplementary to the ſaid law, to veſt power in the ſaid Society to let or leaſe the ſaid vaults and ſtores when built, for the benefit of the ſaid Society, and alſo ſuch apartments as may not be wanted for the immediate uſe of the Society, to ſuch purpoſes as may have affinity with or tend to promote the deſign of its inſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Williams*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth the loſs of his depreciation certificate, and praying a renewal of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Treaſurer of the State for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſq; was unanimouſly choſen.

On motion of Mr. *Hannum*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report to this Houſe a particular account of the annual expenditures for the civil liſt, and to form a return of all officers of the ſtate who are entitled to public emoluments, by ſalary, fee or perquiſite, with an eſtimate of the annual amount or value of each officer's ſalary, fees or perquiſites, and to report a plan for leſſening the expences of government.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Whitehill,* be the committee for the purpoſes mentioned in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee appointed on the motion relative to printing the minutes and bills in the *German* language, which was read the firſt time *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That four hundred copies of the minutes, part of the twelve hundred copies agreed to by the reſolve of the 4th of *November,* be tranſlated, and publiſhed in the *German* language.

Reſolved, That all public bills, ordered for publication, be tranſlated and publiſhed in a *German* news-paper.

On motion of Mr. *Miller,* ſeconded by Mr. *Gray,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Richards,* be a committee, to ſuperintend the tranſlating and printing the minutes of this Houſe, and bills for conſideration, in the *German* language.

On motion of Mr. *Orth,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a *German* Printer of the minutes and bills, and alſo for the choice of a perſon to tranſlate the minutes and bills into the *German* language.

The meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, read this forenoon, was, on motion and by ſpecial order, read the ſecond time, and conſidered by paragraphs, and the following proceedings had thereon, *viz.*

On motion of Mr *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris,*

Reſolved, That the following paragraph, *viz.*—“ Eaſy communication between the different parts of a ſtate is one of the means that contribute to its wealth and proſperity. Our roads are generally bad, whereby the conveyance of our produce and merchandize to market is often obſtructed, delayed, or rendered more expenſive. If the repairing of roads was made a county charge, to be defrayed by a tax, and executed by contract, inſtead of being, as at preſent, an unequal burthen on the townſhips, we apprehend they would be kept in better order, and the public greatly benefited”—be referred to a committee, to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Lowry,* Mr. *Tyſon,* Mr. *Trail* and Mr. *Loller,* be the committee for the above purpoſe.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Miller,*

Ordered, That the following paragraph, *viz.*—“ The eſtabliſhment of an improved ſyſtem of revenue is a matter that ſeems to us very neceſſary, and we therefore earneſtly recommend it to your conſideration”—be referred to the committee on ways and means.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Reſolved, That the following paragraph, *viz*—“ The teſt-laws, however proper or neceſſary they may have been at the time and under the circumſtances in which they were made, are at preſent, on various accounts, the cauſe of much uneaſineſs in the ſtate. We are therefore of opinion that it is now expedient to reviſe them”—be referred to a committee.

Moved by Mr. *Smilie,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Trail,*

That the ſaid paragraph be referred to a committee of a member from each county, to report thereon.

Moved by Mr. *Wayne,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

That the ſaid motion be poſtponed, in order to introduce the following, *viz.*

That the above recited paragraph be referred to a committee of the whole Houſe.

On the queſtion,—"Shall the ſame be poſtponed for the ſaid purpoſe?"—It was carried in the negative.

The original motion was then put, and

Carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *A. Erwin,* Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Atlee,* Mr. *Miller,* Mr. *Watts,* Mr. *Lutz,* Mr. *Mawhorter,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *M'Dowell,* Mr. *Smilie,* Mr. *A. Smith,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *R. Clark,* be the committee for the above purpoſe.

It appearing that the Houſe had provided for the other objects recommended in the ſaid meſſage, by the appointment of committees, no further order was taken thereon.

The petitions from the city and county of *Philadelphia* and the county of *Montgomery,* relating to the teſt-laws, which were read the firſt time *November* 3d, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed this forenoon, on a paragraph of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council reſpecting the teſt-laws.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill,*

Ordered, That the Clerk deliver to the ſame committee all the petitions on the files of the former Houſe, relating to the teſt-laws.

A letter from the Honorable *John Bayard,* Eſquire, accepting of the appointment of Delegate in Congreſs, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 14, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Charles Pettit,* Eſquire, accepting of the appointment of a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of *James Brown, Philip Buck, John Gilmore* and *Thomas Leiper,* read *November* 11th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed on the petitions of *John Hazelwood,* junior, and *Andrew Bunner,* and that Mr. *J. Irvine* be added, in the room of Mr. *Miller,* who is excuſed.

The petitions of *Mary Hance* and *Ann Prieſt,* read *November* 11th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *William M'Cullough* was read, with an account of expences incurred during his attendance as a witneſs on the late conteſted election for *Lancaſter* county, and praying payment therefor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the *American* Philoſophical Society, read *November* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the reſolution reſpecting the inland navigation of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 11th, on the petitions of *Joſeph Blancher*, *William Clugan*, *Sebaſtian Stonemire* and *Blackall William Ball*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill empowering the Comptroller-General (with the conſent of the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council) upon full and ſatiſfactory proof being made of the loſs or deſtruction of certificates granted by this ſtate to the officers and ſoldiers of the ſaid ſtate, and not payable to bearer, to renew (after proper precautions by publications in the news-papers, and at the expiration of a ſufficient length of time) the ſaid certificates.

Ordered, That Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Trail*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and* "*of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation*," read *November* 11th, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 15, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Leibart* and *Billmeyer*, of *Germantown*, was read, praying to be appointed Printers of the minutes and bills of this Houſe which are to be publiſhed in the *German* language, and encloſing the prices at which they would have the ſame tranſlated and printed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Melchior Steiner* was read, praying to be appointed Printer of the minutes and bills of this Houſe in the *German* language, and annexing the terms at which he would print the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The order of the day being called and read, *viz*. For the choice of a *German* Printer,

The ſeveral petitions from the Printers were again read: Whereupon

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Printer of the minutes and bills ordered for publication in the *German* language, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Leibart* and *Billmeyer* were duly elected.

A petition from *John Knapſhnider* was read, ſetting forth the loſs of a certificate granted him for his ſervices as a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, and praying a renewal of the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Atlee* and Mr. *Carothers*, be a committee, for the purpoſe of inſpecting into the ſtate of the State-Houſe, and report what additional repairs, if any, are neceſſary.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain* "*diſorderly ſports and diſſipation*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 16, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from four hundred and fifty-ſeven inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, ſetting forth, that the preſent court-houſe and priſon at *Newtown* are ſo much decayed, that it is neceſſary they ſhould be rebuilt, or others erected in their ſtead, and praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to a place more convenient to the inhabitants, and to authoriſe them to erect the public buildings on a better plan, at or near the center of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Memorials and petitions from three hundred of the freemen of the county of *Cheſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to* "*ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "A Supplement to an act, en- "tituled "An Act to enable *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead,* "*Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis,* to build a new "Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter,* and to ſell the old Court- "houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter,*" and praying that the ſame may be repealed, and that a ſupplement may be paſſed, enabling the old commiſſioners, or ſome other ſuitable perſons, to finiſh the new Court-houſe, Priſon and Workhouſe at the *Turk's Head,* near the center of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Frederick Mehl,* of *Germantown,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that ſeveral of his title deeds to certain lots of land by him held in the townſhip of *Germantown* aforeſaid, were depoſited under ground during the war, and thereby received ſo much injury as to deſtroy their uſe as legal evidence, and praying leave to bring in a bill for eſtabliſhing the ſaid deeds, and confirming his title, ſo far as the ſaid deeds reſpectively relate thereto.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nicholas Reib,* late of the corps of artificers, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that there are divers ſums of money due to him and his ſon, for pay, cloathing and rations, whilſt in the ſaid ſervice, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 14th, reſpecting the inland navigation of the ſtate, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* James "Walter *in certain meſſuages, tenements and tracts of land, ſituated and being* "*in* Kennet *townſhip,* Cheſter *county,*" was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hannum,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *J. Morris,* to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain* "*diſorderly ſports and diſſipation;*" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the act of Aſſembly before recited, entituled "*An Act for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality,*" and every article, clauſe and thing therein contained, and the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly which were thereby repealed, ſhall, from and after the day of next, be repealed, and become null and void; and that this act, and every thing herein contained, ſhall then and thereupon be in full force and virtue, and continue in force and virtue for the term of ſeven years, and no longer."

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid paragraph, in order to introduce the following additional paragraph, preceding the ſame, *viz*.

" Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons whatſoever ſhall erect, build, or cauſe to be erected or built, any play-houſe, theatre, ſtage or ſcaffold, for acting, ſhewing or exhibiting any tragedy, comedy, tragi-comedy, farce, interlude, or other play, or any ſcene or part of any play whatſoever; or who ſhall act, ſhew or exhibit ſuch play, or any part of a play, or be in any wiſe concerned therein; or who ſhall ſell any ticket or tickets for that purpoſe, in any place within this commonwealth, and be thereof legally convicted in the court of quarter ſeſſions of the peace, or oyer and terminer and general goal delivery, of the city or county wherein the offence ſhall be committed, ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of pounds for every ſuch offence; and every ſuch perſon, after conviction as aforeſaid, ſhall be holden in recognizance, with two ſufficient ſureties, to be of his or her good behaviour; and if ſuch perſon offend again in like manner, ſuch offence ſhall incur the forfeiture of ſuch recognizance."

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the ſaid purpoſe?"—it was

Determined in the affirmative.

Thereupon the aforeſaid additional paragraph was preſented to the chair, and read.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſame, together with the aforeſaid bill, be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *November* 17, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate was read, ſetting forth, that the late laws for regulating the fiſheries within the ſame are unfavorable, and unneceſſarily injurious to thoſe who are concerned in that buſineſs near the falls of *Delaware*; that nature hath ſufficiently provided the means of an ample ſupply to thoſe reſiding higher up the river by the great floods, which prevent the fiſhing near the falls nearly all the ſhad ſeaſon; that the prohibition from fiſhing on the Sabbath extends to thirty-ſix hours; from all which obſtructions, the little opportunity which the ſeaſon admits of catching that excellent and valuable fiſh is much reduced, whereby great numbers go up the river, and are not taken, but die, float down the ſtream, and are totally loſt; therefore praying an act may be paſſed, allowing divers ſeines to be drawn at one fiſhing-place, and that the time of abſtaining from fiſhing for the ſacred duties of the Sabbath may be limited to twenty-four hours.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from the Board of Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 23d laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was yeſterday re-committed the report reſpecting the inland navigation of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 5th, on the memorial of *Whitehead Humphreys*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the remonſtrance and petition of divers freeholders and others, proprietors of and intereſted in the ſhad fiſhery in the river *Schuylkill*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the Act to provide further regulations, whereby to ſecure fair and equal proceedings in the Land-Office, and in ſurveying lands*,” was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that Mr. *Findley* be added to the committee.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation*;” and in debating the paragraph, moved yeſterday to be inſerted as an additional paragraph, *viz.*

“ Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons whatſoever ſhall erect, build, or cauſe to be erected or built, any playhouſe, theatre, ſtage or ſcaffold, for acting, ſhewing or exhibiting any tragedy, comedy, tragi-comedy, farce, interlude or other play, or any ſcene or part of any play whatſoever; or who ſhall act, ſhew or exhibit ſuch play, or any part of a play, or be in anywiſe concerned therein; or who ſhall ſell any ticket or tickets for that purpoſe, in any place within this commonwealth, and be thereof legally convicted in the court of quarter ſeſſions of the peace, or oyer and terminer and general goal delivery of the city or county wherein the offence ſhall be committed, ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of   pounds for every ſuch offence; and every ſuch perſon, after conviction as aforeſaid, ſhall be holden in recognizance, with two ſufficient ſureties, to be of his or her good behaviour; and if ſuch perſon offend again in like manner, ſuch offence ſhall incur the forfeiture of ſuch recognizance.

On the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *Lincoln*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Iſaac Gray*,
2 *George Logan*,
3 *Samuel Foulke*,
4 *John Smith*,
5 *Joſeph Thomas*,
6 *Robert Smith*,
7 *Jonathan Morris*,
8 *David M‘Conaughy*,
9 *David M‘Clellan*,
10 *Robert Whitehill*,
11 *John Carothers*,
12 *John Creigh*,
13 *Abraham Lincoln*,
14 *David Davis*,
15 *Thomas Mawhorter*,

YEAS.

16 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
17 *Robert Brown*,
18 *John Piper*,
19 *William Findley*,
20 *John M‘Dowell*,
21 *John Smilie*,
22 *James M‘Calmont*,
23 *Abraham Smith*,
24 *John Rhea*,
25 *Robert Loller*,
26 *Adam Orth*,
27 *Robert Clark*,
28 *David Krouſe*,
29 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,

NAYS.

3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *James Irvine*,

NAYS.

5 *George Clymer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Clark,*
8 *Arthur Erwin,*
9 *Anthony Wayne,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Thomas Bull,*
13 *John Hannum,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Edward Hand,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
19 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *Henry Miller,*

NAYS.

22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *Philip Gartner,*
24 *Joſeph Lilly,*
25 *Henry Tyſon,*
26 *Adam Eichelberger,*
27 *Frederick Watts,*
28 *Nicholas Lutz,*
29 *Henry Spyker,*
30 *Philip Kreemer,*
31 *Baltſer Gehr,*
32 *Robert Trail,*
33 *Peter Burkhalter,*
34 *William Todd,*
35 *John Hughes,*
36 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
37 *Peter Richards.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the act of Aſſembly before recited, entituled " *An Act for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality*," and every article, clauſe and thing therein contained, and the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly which were thereby repealed, ſhall, from and after the day of next, be repealed, and become null and void; and that this act, and every thing herein contained, ſhall then and thereupon be in full force and virtue, and continue in force and virtue for the term of ſeven years, and no longer."

It was moved by Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Orth,*

To inſert, after the words " *therein contained,*" the words " *ſo far as the ſame are ſupplied by this act.*"

And on the queſtion,— " Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing amendment?"—

It was determined in the negative.

Thereupon, The ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 18, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Nicholas Reib,* read *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Schmyſer* and Mr. *Trexler,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *Robert Hardie,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, relative to the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the better regulating and improving the ſhad and other fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Davis* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 12th, on the petition of divers freeholders and inhabitants of the town of *Eaſton* and *Forks* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to amend the act, entituled “ *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly* “ *heretofore made, for regulating the elections of the Juſtices of the Peace through-* “ *out this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections, and* “ *to authoriſe the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold the* “ *courts of record of the ſaid city*,” paſſed the 31ſt day of *March*, 1784.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *M‘Clellan*, Mr. *Lutz* and Mr. *Trail*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *Whitehead Humphreys*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to enable the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to draw upon the State Treaſurer, in favour of *Whitehead Humphreys*, for a ſum not exceeding *five hundred pounds*, to enable him to commence and carry on the manufacturing of ſteel within this ſtate, he giving them ſatisfactory ſecurity for the re-payment thereof within five years, without intereſt, and that the money lent to him as aforeſaid ſhall be applied to the purpoſe intended.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Watts*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, reſpecting the inland navigation of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time, and unanimouſly adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee upon the inland navigation report——

That in their opinion a reviſion of any of the acts for improving the navigation of the river *Suſquehanna*, as a meaſure to influence the concurrence of the ſtate of *Maryland* with the ſtates of *Delaware* and *Pennſylvania*, in opening a navigable communication between the two bays of *Cheſapeak* and *Delaware*, will be premature, until that ſtate ſhall diſcover itſelf indiſpoſed thereto, which, as far as they ſtand informed, will not probably be the caſe: The committee rather propoſe, that a negotiation be entered into with the ſtates of *Maryland* and *Delaware*, upon the ground of reciprocal advantages to be derived to all the ſtates concerned, from a communication between the ſaid two bays, as well as from an effectual improvement of the navigation of the river *Suſquehanna*, and its ſtreams.

The committee, in conſequence, ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted, and they are hereby authoriſed and requeſted, to enter into a negotiation with the ſtates of *Maryland* and *Delaware*, upon the ground, and for the purpoſes above-mentioned.

Agreeably to the requiſition of this Houſe, of the 2d inſtant, one of the judges of the firſt election diſtrict for the county of *Northumberland* attended, with the liſts and tally papers of the late election held in and for the ſaid county, which were preſented to the Chair, as alſo two letters from *William Irwin* and *Robert Fleming*, Eſquires, two of the Juſtices of the Peace reſiding in the third and fourth election diſtricts of the ſaid county, together with the ſeveral liſts and tally papers of their reſpective diſtricts; but none of the judges of the ſecond diſtrict, with their liſts and tally papers, appearing, Thereupon

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid election be poſtponed until ten o'clock to-morrow, in the forenoon.

A petition from divers freeholders of the town of *Harriſburgh,* in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, to enable them to elect as many Magiſtrates as thoſe county towns within this ſtate, who are not incorporated, are legally authoriſed to do.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the *Little Cove,* in the county of *York,* read *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time; and, after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 19, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from upwards of ſix hundred and fifty inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, ſetting forth the inconveniencies and unequal hardſhips they lay under in attending the courts of juſtice at *Newtown,* and ſtating that the court-houſe and priſon at *Newtown* aforeſaid are ſo much decayed, that it is abſolutely neceſſary they ſhould be rebuilt, or others built in their ſtead; therefore praying the ſeat of juſtice for the ſaid county may by law be fixed in a more central part thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Vanderſlice* was read, ſetting forth, that he ſerved as a ſerjeant in the Ninth *Pennſylvania* regiment from the year 1777 until the year 1780, and was diſcharged a few days previous to the reſolve of Congreſs, paſſed on the tenth day of *April,* 1780, for granting the depreciation due on the pay of ſuch of the line of the army as were enliſted during the war, or for three years, and were then in ſervice, whereby he is excluded from the benefit of the act of Aſſembly paſſed the thirteenth day of *April,* 1782, for granting him the depreciation due on his pay; therefore praying the Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers freeholders of the town of *Harriſburgh,* in the county of *Dauphin,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *Miller,* Mr. *M^{c}Clellan,* Mr. *Lutz* and Mr. *Trail,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Daniel Humphreys,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* Printer of the *Pennſylvania Mercury,* was read, praying he may be permitted to have acceſs to the minutes of the Houſe, in order to give the public early information concerning the important matters which come before this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 7th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Two of the judges of the ſecond election diſtrict for the county of *Northumberland* appearing, and producing the liſts and tally papers relative to the late election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly held in the ſaid diſtrict, Thereupon

The order of the day, for the hearing of the witneſſes relative to the late election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland*, was read: Whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe will reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of hearing the evidence touching ſaid election.

Mr. *R. Morris* having thereupon been appointed Chairman,

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the evidence,

Mr. Chairman left the Chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported,——That the committee had made ſome progreſs in examining the evidence, but not having finiſhed, they beg leave to ſit again.

Ordered, That they have leave to ſit accordingly, at four o'clock this afternoon.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of *Mulberry* ward, in the city of *Philadelphia*, were read, ſetting forth, that by the increaſe of the city, and the addition of inhabitants to the ſaid ward, they are grown ſo numerous, as to be very much incommoded by their numbers in all public buſineſs, eſpecially in elections, of which they have experienced a moſt melancholy inſtance in the late general election, when near one half of them were ſhut out from voting, for want of time to take their votes; therefore praying the ſaid ward may be divided, and that *Race-ſtreet* may be the diviſion line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh* was read, ſetting forth that they have, at a conſiderable expence, ſet on foot a ſchool for the inſtruction of youth, in expectation that this Houſe would encourage the ſame, as directed by the conſtitution, and ſtating the inability of a few individuals in that new ſettled, harraſſed, and juſt reſpiring country, to promote and fully countenance ſo laudable an undertaking; therefore praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant them their aid and patronage.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 18th, on the petition of *Robert Hardie*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the determination of the Houſe this forenoon,

The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of proceeding to hear the evidence reſpecting the late election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland:* Whereupon

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

And after conſiderable time ſpent in examining the witneſſes touching ſaid election,

The Chairman left the Chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported,——That they had made ſome further progreſs in the buſineſs committed to them, and requeſted leave to ſit again: Thereupon

Ordered, That they have leave to ſit accordingly at ten o'clock on *Monday* next, in the forenoon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, November 21, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Daniel Vanderſlice*, read *November* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

The petitions of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of *Mulberry* ward, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 19th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Williams*, read *November* 12th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Trail*, to report thereon.

A repreſentation from *Archibald M'Clean*, Eſq; Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *York*, was read, ſtating his bad ſtate of health, and praying leave to reſign his ſaid offices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The repreſentation of the inhabitants of *Pittſburg*, read *November* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Atlee*, Mr. *Carothers*, Mr. *Creigh* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of the board of Truſtees of *Dickinſon* College, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Crabb* and *Henry Moore*, read *November* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

The petition of *William M'Culloch*, read *November* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

The petition of *Frederick Mehl*, read *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petitions of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, read *November* 9th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read *November* 19th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, in order to proceed to the further examination of the witneſſes reſpecting the late election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland:* Whereupon

Mr. Speaker left the chair; and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in examining the witneſſes touching ſaid election, The Chairman left the chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported,——That they had made ſome further progreſs in the buſineſs committed to them, and requeſted leave to ſit again.

Ordered, That they have leave to ſit accordingly, at four o'clock this afternoon.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Joſeph Ireland*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Jones* was read, ſetting forth, that from the particular ſituation of his affairs, not from diſaffection to the cauſe of *America*, he found it neceſſary to go to *Great-Britain* while the enemy were in poſſeſſion of the city of *Philadelphia*; that during his abſence his property was confiſcated, occaſioned by his being of the ſame name and occupation with another perſon, who had been guilty of treaſon againſt the country; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for licenſing and regulating a theatre in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," which was read.

And on the queſtion,—" Shall the ſame lie on the table?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Conaughy* and Mr. *Gray*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *John Clark,*
9 *Arthur Erwin,*
10 *Anthony Wayne,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Edward Hand,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

19 *Henry Miller,*
20 *Michael Schmyſer,*
21 *Philip Gartner,*
22 *Joſeph Lilly,*
23 *Henry Tyſon,*
24 *Frederick Watts,*
25 *Nicholas Lutz,*
26 *Henry Spyker,*
27 *Philip Kreemer,*
28 *Baltſer Gehr,*
29 *Robert Trail,*
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *John Hughes,*
32 *John Smilie,*
33 *Abraham Smith,*
34 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Ralſton,*
7 *Robert Smith,*
8 *Jonathan Morris,*
9 *David M‘Conaughy,*
10 *David M‘Clellan,*

NAYS.

11 *Adam Eichelberger,*
12 *Robert Whitehill,*
13 *John Carothers,*
14 *John Creigh,*
15 *Abraham Lincoln,*
16 *David Davis,*
17 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
18 *Robert Brown,*
19 *John Piper,*
20 *William Todd,*

NAYS.

21 *William Findley,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *James M'Calmont,*
24 *John Rhea,*
25 *Robert Loller,*

NAYS.

26 *Adam Orth,*
27 *Robert Clark,*
28 *David Krouſe,*
29 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Henry Weaver, the meſſenger ſent to ſerve the ſummonſes on the ſeveral perſons ordered to attend at the bar of this houſe on the 18th inſtant, purſuant to the order of the Houſe of the 2d inſtant, to give evidence touching the late election of Repreſentatives in General Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland,* attended at the bar, and made return of the citations by him made; and being queſtioned particularly reſpecting ſuch of the above perſons who have not attended at the bar of the Houſe, purſuant to their order, in order to ground further proceedings, he made the following declaration on oath, *viz.*

That *John Gray* being gone to *Fort-Pitt,* he delivered the letter encloſing the ſummons to the wife of ſaid *Gray.*

That he ſaw *Robert Smith,* another of the witneſſes, after having left the letter encloſing ſaid ſummons with his wife, who informed the meſſenger he could not attend.

That not being able to find out where *Peter Albert,* another of the witneſſes, lived, he gave the letter encloſing his ſummons to *Alexander Smith,* who promiſed, if poſſible, to forward the ſame to ſaid *Albert.*

That *Richard Sherer,* another witneſs, being from home, he left the letter encloſing his ſummons with his wife. Whereupon

The ſaid meſſenger was diſmiſſed from further attendance.

The Houſe thereupon, agreeably to the order of this forenoon, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole.

Mr. Speaker left the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein; and having finally heard the witneſſes touching ſaid election,

The Chairman left the chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported,——That they had heard ſuch of the witneſſes who attended in obedience to the Speaker's requiſition, and that the Clerk had, by their order, taken down the ſubſtance of their evidence in writing, which they preſented to the chair.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 22, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The repreſentation from *Archibald M'Clean,* Eſq; Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, and for granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *York,* ſtating his bad ſtate of health, and praying leave to reſign his ſaid offices, which was read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted.

A petition from *Jacob Barnitz* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *York.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Schmyſer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Tyſon*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, and for granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *York*, in the place of *Archibald M'Clean*, Eſquire, who hath reſigned.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, of a ſimilar tenor to a petition preſented and read *November* 17th, reſpecting the laws for regulating the ſhad and other fiſheries in the river *Delaware*, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the perſons who have attended, in conſequence of the requiſition of the 2d of *November* inſtant, to give evidence touching the late general election held in and for the county of *Northumberland* for repreſentatives in Aſſembly, ſetting forth the great expence they have incurred, and the detriment to their private affairs, by their obedience to the order of this Houſe, as they live a great diſtance from this city; therefore praying that compenſation may be granted them out of the State Treaſury; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 15th, for the purpoſe of inſpecting into the ſtate of the State-Houſe, and to report what additional repairs, if any, are neceſſary, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Donaldſon* and *Coxe*, *Coxe* and *Frazier*, and *John Pringle*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are about fitting out a ſhip on a voyage to the *Eaſt-Indies*; that they conceive it will be neceſſary to arm the ſaid ſhip, to ſecure her againſt pirates and rovers, but cannot procure the neceſſary arms and ammunition; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them the loan of four braſs nine pound cannon, one hundred round nine pound ſhot, and fifty double head nine pound ſhot, upon their giving ſecurity to return the ſame in eighteen months, or pay the value thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 14th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Comptroller General, under certain regulations, to renew certificates granted by this ſtate, which have been or may be loſt or deſtroyed by accident*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The teſtimony reported by the committee of the whole yeſterday, touching the late general election held in and for the county of *Northumberland*, was on motion read, and taken into conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *J. Clark*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Loller* be appointed to examine the tally papers and clerks liſts of voters names of the ſaid election at the table, and to aſcertain the ſtate thereof.

Moved by Mr. *Clymer*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Gray*,

That ſo much of the foregoing order, as reſpects the examination at the table, be re-conſidered, in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, "*in the Committee-room*."

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe re-conſider, in order to make the propoſed amendment?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Lilly*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Anthony Wayne,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Robert Smith,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Jonathan Morris,*
16 *Edward Hand,*
17 *Adam Hubley,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Henry Miller,*
23 *David M'Conaughy,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *Philip Gartner,*
26 *Joſeph Lilly,*
27 *Henry Tyſon,*
28 *David M'Clellan,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *John Hughes,*
31 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Baltſer Gehr,*
16 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
17 *Robert Trail,*
18 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
19 *Peter Burkhalter,*
20 *Robert Brown,*
21 *John Piper,*
22 *William Todd,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John M'Dowell,*
25 *John Smilie,*
26 *James M'Calmont,*
27 *Abraham Smith,*
28 *John Rhea,*
29 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
30 *Robert Loller,*
31 *Peter Richards,*
32 *Adam Orth,*
33 *Robert Clark,*
34 *David Krouſe,*
35 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Loller,*

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine* and Mr. *Wayne* be appointed, to aſſiſt Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Loller* in the examination of the *Northumberland* county election papers.

The members appointed this forenoon, to examine the tally papers and clerks liſts of voters names of the late general election for repreſentatives for the county of *Northumberland,* having, after a conſiderable time ſpent, performed that ſervice, preſented to the Speaker the following ſtatement thereof, *viz.*

	Number of	VOTES.			
Candidates.	*1ſt Diſt.*	*2d Diſt.*	*3d Diſt.*	*4th Diſt.*	*Total.*
Frederick Antes,	8	241	93	72	414
Daniel Montgomery,	7	237	90	76	410
Samuel Dale,	8	241	89	76	414
William Maclay,	332	23	35	17	407
John Weitzel,	332	21	30	13	396
Anthony Selling,	295	2	—	—	297

On motion of Mr. *Hand*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the evidence touching the late general election of the county of *Northumberland* be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey*,

Ordered, That the judges and clerks of the ſame election now attending this Houſe, purſuant to their order of the 2d of *November*, be diſcharged from further attendance.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 23, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Andrew Henderſon*, in behalf of himſelf and others, ſurveyors of the donation lands, was read, ſetting forth, that the fees allowed them are inadequate to the toil, danger and expence they incur in the ſurveying thoſe lands, and the great inconveniencies they are ſubjected to, by not having ſome part of the ſurveying fees advanced to them previous to the ſurveys being made; therefore praying their caſe may be taken into conſideration, and ſuch relief granted as may appear neceſſary, by advancing a ſum of money on account to each of the above ſurveyors, and proportioning the fees in ſome meaſure to thoſe of other ſurveyors in this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet*, from *Third* to *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 4th and 10th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, 14th and 21ſt, on the petitions of *Andrew Bunner*, *Philip Buck*, *James Brown*, *Thomas Lieper*, *John Gilmore*, *Mary Hance*, *Ann Prieſt* and *Daniel Vanderſlice*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 11th, on the petition of *Neigal Gray*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of the perſons who have attended in conſequence of the requiſition of the 2d of *November* inſtant, to give evidence touching the late general election held in and for the county of *Northumberland* for repreſentatives in Aſſembly, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Paul Baldy*, *Thomas Clayton*, *John Backenſtoſs*, *John M'Pherſon* and *Samuel Quin*, be each of them paid the ſum of *ſix pounds and ten ſhillings*; that *John Nelſon* be paid the ſum of *ſeven pounds*; and that *Ezekiel Fleming* be paid the ſum of *eight pounds*; for their attendance at the bar of this Houſe, to be paid out of the ſtate treaſury; and that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to draw orders for the ſame.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Robinſon* have leave to withdraw the petition of *John Hazelwood*, junior, read *November* 8th.

Mr. *R. Morris*, Chairman of the committee appointed *November* 12th, on that part of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, and the ſeveral petitions, relative to the teſt-laws, informed the Houſe that the committee have had ſeveral meetings, but, being equally divided in ſentiment, cannot

agree

gree in a report; therefore requeſted that the committee ſhould be diſſolved: Vhereupon

Ordered, That the committee be diſſolved accordingly.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, and for granting letters of Adminiſtraion, and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *York*, and the ballots eing taken, it appeared that *Jacob Barnitz*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The following motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Atlee*, *viz.*

Whereas this Houſe, by their reſolution of the 2d day of *November* inſtant, lid direct, that their Speaker ſhould order ſundry perſons, who had acted as udges and clerks of the *Northumberland* county election, to attend at the bar of this Houſe on *Friday*, the 18th inſtant:

And whereas it appears that *Robert Smith*, one of the perſons ſo directed to e called, has been duly notified, and has refuſed or neglected to attend:

And whereas it is eſſential that the orders of this Houſe ſhould be punctually complied with in all caſes: Therefore

Reſolved, That an attachment be iſſued againſt *Robert Smith*, of *Northumberland* county, for contempt of the order of this Houſe, that he may anſwer at the bar for the contempt aforeſaid.

Moved by Mr. *Smilie*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

That the foregoing motion be poſtponed, for the purpoſe of examining further the meſſenger who ſerved the citations on the *Northumberland* county witneſſes, and alſo *John Nelſon*, one of the judges of the late election of ſaid county, reſpecting the non-attendance of *Robert Smith*, purſuant to the order of the 2d inſtant.

After ſome debate, it being agreed by the members generally that the above mentioned perſons might be examined without poſtponing the original motion, the motion of poſtponement was waved; whereupon *John Nelſon* and the meſſenger were called to the bar, and after having been examined on oath touching the non-attendance of *Robert Smith*, they were diſcharged from further attendance.

The debate on the original motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr *Hannum*, was reſumed, and after a conſiderable time ſpent therein, the queſtion was put thereon, *viz.*—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?" and

Carried in the negative.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to conſider and lay before this Houſe a plan for altering and amending the teſt-laws,

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid motion?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Smilie*, and are as follow. *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Samuel Foulke,*

YEAS.

10 *Anthony Wayne,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *John Hannum,*
14 *Robert Smith,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Jonathan Morris,*
17 *Edward Hand,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *Henry Miller,*
24 *David M‘Conaughy,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *Philip Gartner,*
27 *Henry Tyſon,*
28 *David M‘Clellan,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *Robert Whitehill,*

YEAS.

31 *John Carothers,*
32 *John Creigh,*
33 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
34 *Robert Trail,*
35 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
36 *Peter Burkhalter,*
37 *Robert Brown,*
38 *William Todd,*
39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *Robert Loller,*
41 *Peter Richards,*
42 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Joſeph Thomas,*
5 *Frederick Watts,*
6 *Abraham Lincoln,*
7 *Nicholas Lutz,*
8 *Henry Spyker,*
9 *Philip Kreemer,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Baltſer Gehr,*
12 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

13 *William Findley,*
14 *John Hughes,*
15 *John M‘Dowell,*
16 *John Smilie,*
17 *James M‘Calmont,*
18 *Abraham Smith,*
19 *John Rhea,*
20 *Adam Orth,*
21 *Robert Clark,*
22 *David Krouſe,*
23 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 24, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Catharine Jones,* widow, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia* for houſe-rent, was read, praying to be releaſed from her confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *October* 28th laſt, reported a ſett of rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, which were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Fitzſimons,* in his place, after leave granted, read a bill, entituled "*An Act for the encouraging and increaſing of ſhipping and navigation,*" which being prſented to the chair, was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 18th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for lending the ſum of* five hundred pounds *to* Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of manufacturing of bar iron into ſteel,* which was read the firſt time," and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, The evidence touching the late general election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly held in and for the county of *Northumberland* was read. Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith,* as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears, by the evidence before this Houſe concerning the late election of repreſentatives to ſit in General Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland,* that *Frederick Antes, Samuel Dale* and *Daniel Montgomery* had the higheſt number of votes: Therefore

Reſolved, That *Frederick Antes, Samuel Dale* and *Daniel Montgomery,* Eſquires, are duly elected repreſentatives, to ſit in this Houſe for the ſaid county of *Northumberland.*

It was moved by Mr. *Hannum,* ſeconded by Mr. *Foulke,*

That the conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?"

It was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Wayne,* ſeconded by Mr. *Tyſon,*

To ſtrike out the name of "*Daniel Montgomery,*" and, in lieu thereof, to inſert that of "*William Maclay,*" and that the word "*legal*" be inſerted before the word "*votes.*"

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the propoſed amendments?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Wayne,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Anthony Wayne,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Thomas Bull,*
14 *John Hannum,*
15 *Robert Smith,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Jonathan Morris,*

YEAS.

18 *Edward Hand,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
22 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
23 *Joſeph Work,*
24 *Henry Miller,*
25 *David M'Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *Philip Gartner,*
28 *Joſeph Lilly,*
29 *Henry Tyſon,*
30 *David M'Clellan,*
31 *Adam Eichelberger,*
32 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
33 *Robert Trail,*
34 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*

NAYS.

9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Baltſer Gehr,*
16 *Peter Trexler,* jun.

NAYS.

17 *Peter Burkhalter,*
18 *Robert Brown,*
19 *John Piper,*
20 *William Todd,*
21 *William Findley,*
22 *John Hughes,*
23 *John M'Dowell,*
24 *John Smilie,*
25 *James M'Calmont,*

NAYS.

26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *John Rhea,*
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
29 *Robert Loller,*
30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *David Krouſe,*
34 *Daniel Bradley.*

And it appearing that the votes were equal, the Speaker was called upon to give his caſting vote, which he did in the affirmative.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon the original motion, as amended, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it appears, by the evidence before this Houſe concerning the late election of repreſentatives to ſit in General Aſſembly for the county of *Northumberland,* That *Frederick Antes, Samuel Dale* and *William Maclay* had the higheſt number of legal votes: Therefore

Reſolved, That *Frederick Antes, Samuel Dale* and *William Maclay,* Eſquires, are duly elected repreſentatives, to ſit in this Houſe for the ſaid county of *Northumberland.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 25, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Frederick Antes and *Samuel Dale,* Eſquires, who were declared by the reſolution of yeſterday to have been duly elected repreſentatives for the county of *Northumberland,* appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A petition from the Epiſcopal congregations of *Bangor* in *Carnarvon* townſhip, *Lancaſter* county, and of *St. Thomas*'s chapel, in *Berks* county, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Epiſcopal congregations of *Bangor,* in *Lancaſter,* and of *St. Thomas*'s chapel, in *Berks* county, was read, ſetting forth, that a certain *Thomas Morgan* deviſed a certain piece of ground, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a church or houſe of worſhip; that, agreeably to the ſaid will, a houſe of public worſhip hath been erected thereon, and called *St. Thomas*'s chapel, and uſed as ſuch, as well as for a public ſchool, for a number of years paſt; and ſtating, that the ſaid chapel is too ſmall to contain the congregation, beſides the ſituation of the ſaid chapel being difficult and dangerous in the winter ſeaſon, eſpecially when the waters in *Coneſtogoe* riſe; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill for removing the materials of ſaid chapel, and to rebuild and enlarge the ſame on a free lot of ground in *Morgan's-town,* in *Carnarvon* townſhip, *Berks* county, and that the ſaid lot, with the rents and income belonging to the ſaid chapel, be veſted in the miniſter, church-wardens and veſtry-men, and their ſucceſſors, for ever, for the uſe mentioned in ſaid will; and likewiſe, that the ſaid church may be uſed as heretofore for a public ſchool, and to form them into a corporation, according to the uſual form.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſimilar to thoſe read *November* 19th, praying that the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of the committee of merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Andrew Henderſon*, read *November* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The petition of *David Jones*, read *November* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the papers therein referred to, be committed to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Rees*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Sarah Beazly*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 7th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Daniel Humphreys*, read *November* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

A petition from the maſters of veſſels, citizens of *Philadelphia*, ſetting forth, that many of them have taken an active part in the ſupport of *American* independence; that ſince the peace they ſee with great concern foreigners appointed to the command of *American* veſſels, whilſt they are neglected, and they and their numerous families ſuffering; and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and paſs a law, that all veſſels belonging to and regiſtered in this port ſhall be commanded by citizens of *America*, and that no perſon ſhall be appointed maſter or mate of ſuch veſſels, unleſs he is, agreeable to our conſtitution, become a lawful citizen of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 7th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 22d, reſpecting the repairs neceſſary to be made in and about the State-Houſe, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report of the committee, read *November* 23d, on the petition of *Neigal Gray*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Neigal Gray*, of *Northampton* county, beg leave to report.

That it appears to your committee, that a certain *Nathaniel Taylor*, in the year of our Lord 1760, was ſeized of an eſtate in fee ſimple in the tract of land mentioned in the petition of the ſaid *Neigal Gray*, and that the deeds and other papers neceſſary to the legal proof of the title of the ſaid *Nathaniel Tay-*

lor being lodged, in the ſame year, with the Truſtees of the General Loan-Office, have been loſt, and cannot be found in the ſaid office, or elſewhere.

Your committee alſo beg leave to report, that it is their opinion that the legiſlature ſhould, as far as may be, prevent the loſs of the ſaid papers and deeds from damaging thoſe who claim under the ſaid *Nathaniel Taylor*, by paſſing an act to recognize the ſaid title, and to ſupply the proof thereof, ſo become defective as aforeſaid, as public notice has been given by the petitioner of his application to the late Houſe for redreſs in the premiſes, and no one appearing to oppoſe the granting the prayer thereof: Therefore they recommend the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill to recognize and ſubſtantiate the ſaid title to the ſaid land, and to ſupply the proofs thereof, as ſoon as the mortgage monies yet due thereon, and unpaid, are diſcharged.

The rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, read *November* 23d, were read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Comptroller-General, under certain regulations, to renew the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, which have been or may be loſt or deſtroyed by accident,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled, "*An Act for lending the ſum of* five hundred pounds *to* Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of manufacturing bar iron into ſteel,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 26, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read, praying an additional duty or impoſt may be laid on nails, ſpikes, anchors, and other ſhip work imported into this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Brown* and *Hannah Brown* was read, ſetting forth, that a *Thomas Jones*, of *Williſtown* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, died ſeized of certain lands in the townſhip aforeſaid, and by his laſt will authoriſed his executors to ſell and convey ſuch lands, for the purpoſe of paying unto his widow and children the ſeveral ſums of money ordered in his will, but that the executors renounced their authority, whereby no perſon is legally authoriſed to ſell and perfect a good and ſufficient title to the land aforeſaid; therefore praying a law may be paſſed, empowering *Daniel Cornege* and *John Jacobs*, who are the guardians to the children of the ſaid *Thomas Jones*, to ſell and convey the aforeſaid land.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Andrew Oliphant* and *Samuel Elliot*, ſerjeants, and *Anthony M'Clellan* and *William Carnagey*, privates, who ſerved in the Fourth *Pennſylvania* regiment on the expedition to *Canada*, was read, ſetting forth, that they have not received any compenſation for their ſervices, although they repeatedly applied to the officers under whoſe command they had ſerved ; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Stephens*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 17th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *February* 8th laſt, praying a road may be laid out from the *Water-gap* of *Lehigh* to *Wyoming*, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Harriſon* was read, ſetting forth, that he has a demand on the confiſcated eſtate of *Joſeph Galloway* for *fourteen hundred pounds* ſterling, with intereſt thereon from the year 1775 ; that as the debt is expreſſed in *Britiſh* ſterling, he is precluded from the benefit of the act lately paſſed for funding the public debts, by the operation of an act of the Legiſlature which fixed the exchange at 55 *per Cent.* at a time when, from there being no intercourſe between the two countries, it might be neceſſary that ſuch regulations ſhould be made ; and ſtating, that he conceives there is an eſſential difference between his ſituation and that of public creditors, as the debt now devolved upon the ſtate was contracted with individuals, and ſecured by the laws of the land, in ſuch a manner as to place the debtor in the power of the creditor, with reſpect to the time and manner of payment ; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes, agreeably to thoſe laws of the commonwealth which prevail between man and man.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the privates late of the Eighth Regiment, and diſcharged before the 10th day of *Auguſt*, 1780, was read, ſetting forth, that they were diſcharged a ſhort time before the above period, without receiving the depreciation due on their pay ; therefore praying this Houſe to grant relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 23d, to conſider of and lay before this Houſe a plan for altering and amending the teſt-laws, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Rules and Regulations for the government of this Houſe, read *November* 24th, were read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

RULES and REGULATIONS of the TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

I. WHEN the Speaker aſſumes the Chair, the members ſhall take their ſeats.

II. At the opening of the Houſe each day, the minutes of the preceding day ſhall be read, and are then in the power of the Houſe to be corrected ; after which any buſineſs addreſſed to the Chair may be proceeded to.

III. Every member preſenting a paper to the Chair, ſhall firſt ſtate its general purport.

IV. Every petition, memorial, letter, or other matter of the like kind, read in the Houſe, ſhall be deemed as lying on the table for further conſideration, unleſs any ſpecial order be moved therein.

V. A motion made and ſeconded, ſhall be repeated by the Speaker. A motion ſhall be reduced to writing, if the Speaker or any two members require it. A motion may be withdrawn by the member making it, before any deciſion is had on it.

VI. No buſineſs, regularly before the Houſe, ſhall be interrupted, but by motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement, commitment, or amendment.

VII. The motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement or re-commitment, ſhall preclude amendment, and farther debate on the original ſubject; but the previous queſtion cannot be moved by leſs than four members.

VIII. A report laying over for conſideration, when called for, ſhall be read. If more than one be called for at the ſame moment, the Speaker may determine which to prefer. If the Speaker aſk the ſenſe of the Houſe, it ſhall be given without debate.

IX. The Speaker not to vote, unleſs the votes be equal without him.

X. No member ſpeaking ſhall be interrupted, but by a call to order by the Speaker, or by a member through the Speaker.

XI. No member to be referred to in debate by name.

XII. When debates prove tedious, four members riſing may requeſt the queſtion to be put. The Speaker ſhall then take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XIII. The Speaker may, by direction of the Houſe, enjoin ſecrecy to the members.

XIV. The Speaker himſelf, or by requeſt, may call to order any member who ſhall tranſgreſs the rules. If a ſecond time, the Speaker may refer to him by name. The Houſe may then examine and cenſure the member's conduct, he being allowed to extenuate or juſtify.

XV. The Speaker may decide on a queſtion of order. Two members may, however, appeal to the Houſe from his deciſion: Or the Speaker may in the firſt inſtance take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XVI. Any member, on motion, and leave given, may read a bill in his place, and with permiſſion of the Houſe preſent it to the Chair. It ſhall then be proceeded on as if preſented by a committee.

XVII. On a firſt reading of any matter, except a motion made by a member, no debate ſhall be had, but on the queſtion,—*Shall it lie on the table?*

XVIII. The files of the Houſe may be inſpected by the members; but no paper taken away without the Speaker's leave.

XIX. Committees may be of four kinds, *viz.*——Special committees, to be nominated by the Speaker, unleſs otherwiſe ordered. A nomination by the Speaker may be objected to and conſidered.——Committees by ballot.——Grand committees, conſiſting of a member from the city and each county; ——and Committees of the whole Houſe.

XX. Every member actually attending the ſeſſion, ſhall be in his place at the time the Houſe ſtands adjourned to, or within half an hour thereof, on the penalty, if a quorum without him, of *two ſhillings and ſix-pence*, if not, of *five ſhillings*. A member having withdrawn, while the Houſe is ſitting, without leave, ſhall forfeit *five ſhillings*. Excuſes, however, may be admitted.

XXI. The name of him who makes, and the name of him who ſeconds a motion, ſhall be entered on the minutes.

XXII. No member ſhall ſpeak more than twice to a queſtion, without leave.

XXIII. Every member of a committee ſhall attend the committee at the call of his chairman,

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the encouraging and increaſing of ſhipping* "*and navigation,*" which was read the firſt time *November* 24th, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees, therein named,* "*to ſell and diſpoſe of two certain tracts or parcels of glebe land and premiſes,* "*ſituate in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *and to ſecure* "*the annual intereſt ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the maintenance and* "*ſupport of the Miniſter, for the time being, of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church* "*of St.* John, *on* Pequea," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act empowering certain Truſtees, therein named,* "*to ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and to apply the monies ariſing* "*therefrom towards the building of a Parſonage-houſe, for the uſe of the Miniſter, for the time being, of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* James, *in the* "*borough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 28, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* read *November* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lutz,* Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of this ſtate, praying an additional duty to be laid on nails, *&c.* read *November* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Stephens,* read *November* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Lincoln* and Mr. *Rees,* to report thereon.

The petition of the Epiſcopal Congregations of *Bangor* church, in *Carnarvon* townſhip, *Lancaſter* county, and of St. *Thomas*'s chapel, in *Berks* county, read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the Epiſcopal Congregations of *Bangor*, in *Lancaſter*, and of St. *Thomas*'s chapel, in *Berks* county, read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *November* 25th, the report of the committee appointed to inſpect the State-Houſe, and report the neceſſary repairs, made report, which was read, and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to order the following repairs, *viz.*

1ſt. That part of the State-Houſe roof, betwen the ſteeple and the turret of the clock-bell, to be covered with copper.

2d. To new ſhingle three courſes on both ſides of the ridge of the roof, and repair ſeveral places that are decayed, and, if they think proper, to order the painting the upper pitches with clarified turpentine and *Spaniſh* brown, and to draw upon the Treaſurer of the ſtate for the payment of ſuch repairs.

The committee, to whom was referred, *November* 16th, the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* James Walter *in certain* "*meſſuages, tenements and tracts of land, ſituated and being in* Kennet *town*"*ſhip*, Cheſter *county*," reported a bill of the ſame title, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *empowering certain Truſtees, therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and to apply the monies ariſing therefrom towards the building of a parſonage houſe, for the uſe of the miniſter, for the time being, of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of* St. James, *in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *empowering certain Truſtees, therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of two certain tracts or parcels of glebe land and premiſes, ſituate in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *and to ſecure the annual intereſt ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the maintenance and ſupport of the miniſter, for the time being, of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of* St. John, *on* Pequea.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to the laws which are or may be enacted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 29, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An addreſs and memorial from the people called Quakers, in *Philadelphia*, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

The ADDRESS *and* MEMORIAL *of the People called Quakers, in* Philadelphia,

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* Pennſylvania.

INCITED by an apprehenſion of religious duty, and a real concern for the proſperity of our country, which eſſentially depends on the practice of piety and virtue, We now addreſs you, and take the liberty to expreſs our ſatisfaction on hearing this very intereſting ſubject hath ſo far claimed your legiſlative attention, that a bill is before you for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality, it being lamentably obvious that intemperance, licentiouſneſs and profane ſwearing and curſing have lately abounded among the people, we apprehend, in a greater degree than at any former period of time, to which the exceſſive number of taverns, dram-ſhops and tippling-houſes, for the ſale of ſpirituous liquors, and many of them in obſcure places, have moſt aſſuredly contributed, being enſnaring nurſeries of idleneſs, drunkenneſs and debauchery, attended with gaming and various ſpecies of diſorder and wickedneſs, ſhameful to human nature, and reproachful to government; and we moſt earneſtly wiſh your endeavours for a remedy of theſe enormous evils may, through divine bleſſing, be rendered effectual for their ſuppreſſion.

But with equal concern and ſorrow we underſtand, that a bill is before your Houſe to introduce theatrical repreſentations among the inhabitants of this city, which in their nature and conſequences will, we conceive, evidently defeat the meaſures you may adopt for the prevention of iniquity, experience having manifeſted the amuſements of the ſtage to be productive of the moſt pernicious evils, and have been conſidered by pious men, of various chriſtian denominations, as not only deſtructive to the morals and principles of unguarded youth and others, but directly oppoſite to that innocence and ſobriety of conduct and converſation, which the ſpirit and precepts of the chriſtian religion enjoin on its profeſſors.

However theſe ſentiments may be cenſured by the libertine world, as proceeding from narrow bigotry and gloomy ſuperſtition, they are amply ſupported by the whole tenor of the New-Teſtament doctrines, and the judgment of many wiſe and pious men of ancient and modern times, among whom, the eminent *Tillotſon* declares, "the ſtage entertainments to be a mighty reproach "to the age and nation; that they moſt notoriouſly miniſter to infidelity and "vice."

Another of his brethren, *William Law*, as fully condemns the uſe of the ſtage, holding "it to be as great a contradiction to the chriſtian religion, as "any corruption or vile practice of the heathen world:" To which purpoſe many other approved authorities might be adduced.

We, therefore, ſincerely intreat you will be pleaſed to conſider the pernicious effects which muſt enſue from the permiſſion of thoſe deluſive exhibitions, and wiſely interpoſe your authority, after the example of your predeceſſors, to prevent them, that, as guardians to the public welfare, you may uniformly demonſtrate an unbiaſſed regard to the cauſe of true religion and righteouſneſs, which exalt a nation, and your abhorrence of every incitement to diſſipation, and the depravity of the manners of the people over whom you preſide.

Signed, by appointment, and on behalf of our religious Society, in Philadelphia, *the* 28*th of the Eleventh-Month*, 1785.

Iſaac Zane,
Owen Jones,
James Pemberton,
David Bacon,
Charles Weſt,
Joſhua Howell,
John Parriſh,
William Savery, jun.
Thomas Hallowell,
Samuel Levis,
David Evans,
Daniel Byrnes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition, ſigned by 179 of the officers and others of the tenth battalion of militia (late of *Lancaſter*, but now of the county of *Dauphin*) was read, ſetting forth, that ſeveral individuals of the ſaid battalion labour under peculiar and diſtreſſing grievances in now being charged with, and threatened to be ſued for, militia fines and forfeitures, which were either never incurred, or, where they were, the delinquents have paid them; and ſtating, that no perſon or perſons are legally empowered to hear and redreſs thoſe grievances; therefore praying that perſons of known integrity and abilities may be appointed, to examine and finally determine upon ſuch complaints.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for enſuring houſes from loſs by fire, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for incorporating the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Valentine Eckert*, of the county of *Berks*, was read, ſetting forth, that in 1778, in conſequence of his appointment as a Commiſſioner of Purchaſe for the army, he ſupplied a large quantity of flour, whiſky and proviſions, at his own private expence, having no public money in his hands for the purpoſe, for which there remained due to him the ſum of ſeven thouſand five hundred and ninety-nine dollars, and received from *Jonathan Burrell*, Eſq; on a final ſettlement, a certificate therefor; that his zeal in thus forwarding the public ſervice has involved him in great difficulties, and will impoveriſh his fortune, to the great prejudice of himſelf and family, unleſs he is reimburſed; therefore praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nathaniel Galt*, late an officer in the navy of this ſtate, was read, praying he may be allowed depreciation on his pay, agreeably to an account incloſed in the ſaid petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Weitzel*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 16th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh certain rules and regulations for obtaining a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants in the city, and ſeveral counties of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of *David Jones*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *November* 25th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *November* 26th, relative to the teſt-laws, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider and lay before the Houſe a plan for altering and amending the teſt-laws, beg leave to report——

That they have conſidered the ſeveral teſt-laws paſſed in this commonwealth from time to time, requiring a teſt of allegiance, fidelity and abjuration, from the inhabitants thereof, which ſaid laws were wiſely calculated for the more effectual defence of the liberties of the United States, then invaded by the

forces

rces of his *Britannic* Majeſty, and endangered by the machinations of ſundry isaffected perſons; that the aggreſſion of the ſaid King having ceaſed by the onclusion of the treaty of peace, and the independence of the United States aving been thereby fully eſtabliſhed, it appears that moſt of the reſtrictions ontained in the ſaid laws are no longer neceſſary:

Wherefore your committee humbly conceive, that it might become the isdom of this Houſe to reviſe the ſaid laws, and beſtow on thoſe inhabitants f *Pennſylvania* diſabled thereby the privileges of citizenſhip, excepting ſuch erſons as are now actually under attainder, and alſo ſuch perſons as have at ny time during the late war voluntarily joined, aided, aſſiſted or abetted the ing of *Great-Britain*, or his forces employed againſt the United States.

Your committee do therefore report——

That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to confer on the free male hite inhabitants of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania* (not included in the bove deſcriptions) who may have neglected to comply with the terms and onditions heretofore impoſed by the ſeveral teſt-laws, and the laws for ſecurity of the government, all and ſingular the rights and privileges appertaining o citizens of the ſaid commonwealth, on taking an oath or affirmation of llegiance to the ſame.

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"—the Yeas and ays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Moore*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Anthony Wayne*,
9 *Robert Ralſton*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Thomas Bull*,
12 *John Hannum*,
13 *Robert Smith*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Jonathan Morris*,
16 *Edward Hand*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Samuel J. Atlee*,
20 *Emanuel Carpenter*,

YEAS.

21 *Henry Miller*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *Michael Schmyſer*,
24 *Philip Gartner*,
25 *Joſeph Lilly*,
26 *Henry Tyſon*,
27 *David M'Clellan*,
28 *Adam Eichelberger*,
29 *John Carothers*,
30 *John Creigh*,
31 *Robert Trail*,
32 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
33 *Peter Burkhalter*,
34 *Robert Brown*,
35 *William Todd*,
36 *John Hughes*,
37 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
38 *Robert Loller*,
39 *Peter Richards*,
40 *Thomas Rees*.

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine*,
2 *John Clark*,
3 *Arthur Erwin*,
4 *John Smith*,
5 *Joſeph Thomas*,
6 *Robert Whitehill*,

NAYS.

7 *Frederick Watts*,
8 *Abraham Lincoln*,
9 *Nicholas Lutz*,
10 *Henry Spyker*,
11 *Philip Kreemer*,
12 *David Davis*.

NAYS.

13 *Baltſer Gehr,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *John M'Dowell,*
19 *John Smilie,*

NAYS.

20 *James M'Calmont,*
21 *Abraham Smith,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *Adam Orth,*
24 *Robert Clark,*
25 *David Krouſe,*
26 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the report adopted.

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Ca rothers* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to th foregoing report.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair a bill, entitule " *An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the title of the aſſigns of* Nathaniel Taylor *i* " *a certain meſſuage and tract of land, in* Allen *townſhip, in the county of* North " *ampton,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, having previouſly obtained leave, read in his place a bill, en tituled " *An Act to regulate the trials of controverted elections, or returns o* " *members to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth,*" and on leav granted, the ſame was preſented to the Chair, and read the firſt time at th table, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act fo* " *encouraging and increaſing of ſhipping and navigation,*" and having furthe debated the ſame,

It was, on motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie,*

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be committed to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 30, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill,*

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Hand,* Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Findley,* be a ſtanding committee, for draughting inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States.

A petition from divers inhabitants, manufacturers of bar iron within this ſtate, was read, praying an additional duty may be laid on all bar iron of foreign manufacture, imported into this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

The petition of the officers and others, of the tenth battalion of militia (late of *Lancaſter*) but now of the county of *Dauphin,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Wayne,* Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Loller,* to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of freemen, inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, read *November* 16th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Lutz,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Robert Robinſon* was read, ſetting forth, that his brother *Peter Robinſon* was appointed, early after the revolution, a collector of fines and taxes for a part of the county of *Bucks,* and that the petitioner became his ſecurity for the faithful performance of his truſt; that the ſaid *Peter* afterwards died inſane, and indebted to the ſtate for monies received, in conſequence of his appointment, to the amount of £ 140 in ſpecie, for which the petitioner is become liable, and praying this Houſe to remit the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1704 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 30th and *September* 7th laſt, remonſtrating againſt a removal of the ſeat of juſtice, were called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying that the courts of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be, by an act of the legiſlature, ordered to be held in a more central part of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Tharpe,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *February* 10th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers freeholders, inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter,* requeſting the aid of the Legiſlature for encouraging a public ſchool in the borough of *Lancaſter,* read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *February* 26th, 1784, was called up and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Atlee,* Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Creigh,* to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of ſeveral townſhips of the county of *Montgomery* was read, praying the aid of this Houſe for eſtabliſhing a public ſchool or ſeminary of learning within the ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition and memorial from divers freemen of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend an Act of* "*General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled* " A Supplement to an Act, "entituled " *An Act to enable* William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kin-"kead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon *and* Joſeph Davis, *to build a* "*new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of* Cheſter, *and ſell the old Court-*"*houſe and Priſon in the borough of* Cheſter," and praying the ſame may be repealed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Lutz,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Owen Owen, Ebenezer Owen, Thomas Hughes, William Darrach* and *James Bryan,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *February* 22d laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from Lieutenant-Colonel *James Moore* was read, ſetting forth, that he was at a conſiderable expence in raiſing, cloathing, and providing arms for the troops under his command in the year 1783; and praying this Houſe to grant him a reaſonable compenſation for his extra ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the petition of *Nicholas Reib*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of *Northampton* county, praying for a removal of the courts of juſtice, *&c.* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, for eſtabliſhing certain rules and regulations to obtain a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants of the city and ſeveral counties of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time; and after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Robert Hardie*, poſtponed *November* 19th, and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Robert Hardie*, late of the ſtate navy, having examined into and maturely conſidered the ſame, do find, by the records of the Supreme Executive Council, that the judgment of a court martial, which broke the ſaid Captain *Hardie* for diſobedience of orders, at *Briſtol*, on the 9th day of *December*, 1777, was confirmed by Council, and that he was from thence only a citizen, and conſidered as ſuch, and cannot be conſidered on the ſame footing with the other officers of the ſtate navy: Therefore beg leave to recommend the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That the prayer of his petition cannot be granted.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the petitions of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of *Mulberry* ward, in the city of *Philadelphia*, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting* *ward, being* "*a part of* Mulberry *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for raiſ-" ing the ſum of Forty-two Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public " roads leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this " ſtate, and towards the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 1, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Jacob Neagly*, *Ludwick Hocker* and *Peter Miller*, repreſentatives of the congregation of the *German* Seventh-day Baptiſts at *Ephrata*, in *Lancaſter* county, and its dependencies, was read, ſetting forth their approbation of the bill pending before the Houſe for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality, except in one particular, where it prohibits labour on the firſt day of the week, under a penalty of *thirty ſhillings*, without making a ſaving for ſuch religious ſocieties who ſet apart other days of the week for their Sabbath, whereby they will be prevented from labouring for one ſixth part of their time; and praying that their caſe may be taken into conſideration, and ſuch alteration made in the ſaid bill, as may be thought meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from the ſubſcribers, members of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for inſuring houſes from loſs by fire, which was read *November* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 23d, on the petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet,* in the city of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, on the petition of *David Jones,* which was read the firſt time *November* 29th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Jones,* have attended to the ſame, with the ſeveral papers committed therewith, alſo the law, by which the Supreme Executive Council were empowered to name and and require certain perſons to render themſelves at a fixed period:

Your committee are fully ſatisfied that the petitioner is the perſon called upon by proclamation of the 30th of *October,* 1778: And being duly impreſſed with the neceſſity of preſerving the laws of this commonwealth inviolate, as well as the danger of ſetting aſide the ſame, or any part thereof, or of any of the proceedings under the ſame, unleſs upon the cleareſt teſtimony of their having been founded in error or miſtake, offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted.

The committee appointed *November* 14th, on the petition of the *American* Philoſophical Society, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an Act,* "*entituled* "An Act for veſting in the *American* Philoſophical Society, held "at *Philadelphia,* for the promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of "ground, being part of the State-Houſe ſquare," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* James "Walter *in certain meſſuages, tenements and tracts of land, ſituated and being* "*in* Kennet *townſhip,* Cheſter *county,*" which was read the firſt time *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the title of the aſſigns of* "Nathaniel Taylor *in a certain meſſuage and tract of land in* Allen *townſhip,* "*in the county of* Northampton," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting* Franklin *ward, being a part of* "Mulberry *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward,*" which was read the firſt time yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, made a motion reſpecting the appointment of a perſon to draught the bills of this Houſe, which was preſented to the Speaker, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Hughes* have leave of abſence until *Monday* next.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *December* 2, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia*, *December* 2, 1785.

SIR,

ON the requeſt of Governor *Smallwood*, it became an order of this Board, that the reſolutions of the *Maryland* Houſe of Delegates encloſed ſhould be tranſmitted to the General Aſſembly, for their conſideration.

I am, *SIR*,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

The Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq*;
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the reſolutions encloſed were alſo read.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, ſetting forth, that conſiderable ſums of money are due to them on certificates given for pay and ſupplies furniſhed the army during the late war, and praying the ſame may be received in payment for lands taken up previous to the revolution; and alſo ſuggeſting the propriety of diſmiſſing ſuch officers as may be thought unneceſſary, and lowering the ſalaries of the principal officers of government, and thereby leſſening the expences of the civil liſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Edward Stiles* was read, ſetting forth, that after an abſence of two years and upwards, returning from *Bermuda* to this port, he was taken and carried into *New-York*, and had but juſt returned home a priſoner on parole, and retired to his county ſeat near *Frankford*, when the *Britiſh* army entered the city in the year 1777; and his wife remaining in the city, where he had a conſiderable property, and being deſirous to ſave, if poſſible, that property, which he was informed was going to deſtruction, he left his country ſeat and effects to the care of his ſervants, and came to *Philadelphia*, intending to return again as ſoon as poſſible; that after his arrival in the city, he was taken ſick, and remained a conſiderable time confined to his chamber; that during his ſaid ſickneſs, a party of Captain *Craig*'s troop broke into and fixed their quarters at his ſaid country ſeat, and a number of ſlaves and other conſiderable perſonal property were either taken away or deſtroyed; that ſome time after he received a notice from the Agents for the ſale of confiſcated eſtates, purporting that his negroes were ſeized by an ordinance of the then Council of Safety, and to be ſold, unleſs redeemed at their valuation before a certain day; that he hath ſeveral times applied to the Supreme Executive Council for a reſtoration or payment of the aforeſaid property without effect; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Wilſon*, widow of *Robert Wilſon*, late Sub-Lieutenant of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that her ſaid huſband, to the great injury of himſelf and family, accepted of the appointment of Sub-Lieutenant for the ſaid county, and acted under that appointment until his deceaſe, when the petitioner, upon a ſettlement with the Lieutenant of the county, paid him the balance which was then adjudged to be due; that upon a re-ſettlement of the accounts by the Comptroller-General, a balance of *ninety-nine pounds* is declared to be due; that ſince the aforeſaid re-ſettlement of her ſaid huſband's accounts, an act has been paſſed, allowing an appeal from the determination of the ſaid Comptroller-General, but that doubts had ariſen whether an appeal was allowable in caſes where accounts had been re-ſettled previous to the paſſing the ſaid law; therefore praying this Houſe to order the ſettlement made by the County Lieutenant to be valid, or allow her trial by jury, agreeably to the conſtitution of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Leacock* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, praying to be incorporated, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the petition of *Frederick Mehl*, poſtponed *November* 21ſt: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of his petition.

The petition of *Owen Owen*, *Ebenezer Owen*, *Thomas Hughes*, *William Darrach* and *James Bryan*, read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Thomas*, to report thereon.

The petitions from divers inhabitants of this ſtate, reſpecting the ſhad fiſheries in the river *Delaware*, read *November* 17th and 22d, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Trail*, to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of Lieutenant-Colonel *James Moore*, read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hannum*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

Whereas frequent applications are made to this houſe, for acts to confirm titles to lands which have been rendered defective by the loſs of deeds and conveyances, and as ſuch confirmatory acts are more properly of a judicial than a legiſlative nature,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, empowering the Supreme Court to confirm titles rendered defective, in conſequence of deeds loſt or defaced.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, *&c.* relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of *Daniel Humphreys*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 30th, on the petition of *Nicholas Reib*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioner cannot be granted.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report poſtponed *November* 30th, reſpecting the eſtabliſhment of certain rules and regulations for obtaining a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants in the city and ſeveral counties of this ſtate, together with the amendment moved thereto by Mr. *Whitehill*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Lincoln*.

The report is as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the motion for appointing a committee, " to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh certain rules and regulations for obtaining a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants in the city and ſeveral counties of this ſtate," having fully conſidered that buſineſs, beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill directing the commiſſioners of the city and ſeveral counties in this ſtate to make out a true tranſcript of the books of aſſeſſments, containing the names of the inhabitants and taxable property in each, agreeably to the laſt aſſeſſment, made in purſuance of the funding act paſſed the 16th day of *March*, 1785, and to tranſmit the ſame to this Houſe on or before the day of under the penalty of *five hundred pounds* for neglect or refuſal of each or any of the commiſſioners ſo neglecting or refuſing; to the end, that this Houſe may be enabled to appoint a repreſentation for the next ſeven years, agreeably to the principles laid down in the 17th ſection of the frame of government of this commonwealth.

The amendment moved to the ſaid report, referred to above, is as follows, *viz.*

To ſtrike out the words, " *the city and ſeveral counties in this ſtate to make* " *out a true tranſcript of the books of aſſeſſments, containing the names of the in-* " *habitants and taxable property in each, agreeably to the laſt aſſeſſment, made in* " *purſuance of the funding act paſſed the 16th day of* March, 1785, *and to* " *tranſmit the ſame to this Houſe on or before the day of* " *under the penalty of* five hundred pounds *for neglect or refuſal of each or any* " *of the commiſſioners ſo neglecting or refuſing*;" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words " *each county within this ſtate to make out, from the books* " *of the laſt aſſeſſment, made in purſuance of the act, entituled* " An Act for " furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the " debts of the United States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the " public debts of this ſtate," *a juſt and true tranſcript of the names of all the* " *taxable inhabitants reſident within the ſame county, and tranſmit the ſaid* " *tranſcript to this Houſe, on or before the day of under* " *the penalty of* pounds, *in caſe of neglect or refuſal thereof.*"

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne*,

To poſtpone the foregoing report, together with the propoſed amendment, in order to introduce the following motion, *viz.*

Whereas it is declared, by the 17th ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth, " that repreſentation in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants is the only principle which can at all times ſecure liberty, and make the voice of the people the law of the land; and that the General Aſſembly ſhall cauſe compleat liſts of the taxable inhabitants in the city and each county in the commonwealth, reſpectively, to be taken and returned to them on or before the laſt meeting of the Aſſembly elected in the year 1778, who ſhall appoint a repreſentation to each, in proportion to the number of taxables in ſuch returns, which repreſentation ſhall continue for the next ſeven years afterwards, at the end of which a new return of the taxable inhabitants ſhall be made, and a repreſentation agreeable thereto appointed by the ſaid Aſſembly, and ſo on ſeptennially for ever."

And whereas the term of ſeven years from the laſt return will expire with the preſent, and it is the duty of the preſent General Aſſembly to procure a return of the taxable inhabitants of the city and each county of the ſtate, for the purpoſe aforeſaid:

And whereas, by an act paſſed on the 16th day of *March* laſt, it is, among other things, directed, " That the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and of the other counties reſpectively, do make return of all and every the taxable inhabitants and ſingle freemen within the reſpective townſhips, wards and diſtricts of this commonwealth, together with their trades, profeſſions or occupations, and offices and poſts of profit:"

And by the 50th ſection of the ſaid act, are directed to lay before the preſent Houſe a true and fair tranſcript of all the returns of property ſo to be taken:

And whereas it appears to this Houſe, that the returns ſo directed to be made will be a proper and ſufficient evidence of the taxable inhabitants within this commonwealth:

Therefore, *Reſolved*, That the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council be directed to procure and lay before this Houſe, at their next ſeſſion, ſuch of the returns directed by the ſaid act, as may not be made to this Houſe in their preſent ſeſſion, in order to enable them to proportion the number of repreſentatives in General Aſſembly for the next ſeven years.

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for " the purpoſe aforeſaid?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Logan*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Joſeph Thomas*,
10 *Anthony Wayne*,
11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Thomas Bull*,
14 *John Hannum*,
15 *Robert Smith*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Jonathan Morris*,

YEAS.

18 *Edward Hand*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Alexander Lowrey*,
21 *Samuel J. Atlee*,
22 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
23 *Henry Miller*,
24 *David M'Conaughy*,
25 *Michael Schmyſer*,
26 *Philip Gartner*,
27 *Joſeph Lilly*,
28 *Henry Tyſon*,
29 *David M'Clellan*,
30 *Adam Eichelberger*,
31 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
32 *Robert Loller*,
33 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *John Clark,*
4 *Arthur Erwin,*
5 *John Smith,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Baltſer Gehr,*
16 *Robert Trail,*

NAYS.

17 *Peter Burkhalter,*
18 *Robert Brown,*
19 *John Piper,*
20 *Frederick Antes,*
21 *Samuel Dale,*
22 *William Todd,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John M‘Dowell,*
25 *John Smilie,*
26 *James M‘Calmont,*
27 *Abraham Smith,*
28 *John Rhea,*
29 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Robert Clark,*
32 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the further conſideration of the report poſtponed.

Thereupon the aforeſaid motion was read: Whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Smilie,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lincoln,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair a bill, entituled, " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* Donegal *townſhip, in* " *the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *amending the penal laws of this ſtate;*" and having been fully debated by paragraphs, the ſaid bill was, on motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wayne,* re-conſidered; and thereupon, on motion made by Mr. *Wayne,* ſeconded by Mr. *Watts,*

Ordered, That the ſame be re-committed, with the addition of Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Smilie,* for the purpoſe of conſulting the law officers thereon.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, December 3, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An account from *Henry Weaver,* for his ſervices as meſſenger to *Northumberland* on the late conteſted election of repreſentatives in Aſſembly for ſaid county, was preſented to the Chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

The petition of *Donaldſon* and *Coxe, Coxe* and *Frazier,* and *John Pringle,* read *November* 22d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Fitzſimons,* to adopt the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed, if they think it conſiſtent with the ſafety and convenience of the ſtate, to lend to *Donaldſon* and *Coxe, Coxe* and *Frazier,* and *John Pringle,* for the purpoſe of arming their ſhip, now under ſailing orders for the *Eaſt-Indies,* two twelve pounders,

pounders braſs cannon, together with one hundred round and fifty rounds of double headed ſhot, and to take ſufficient ſecurity for returning or replacing the ſame, or to pay the value thereof, within eighteen months from this date."

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Hannum*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
2 *George Clymer,*
3 *John Salter,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *Samuel Foulke,*
6 *Anthony Wayne,*
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *James Moore,*
9 *Thomas Bull,*
10 *John Hannum,*
11 *Robert Smith,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Jonathan Morris,*
14 *Edward Hand,*
15 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

16 *Alexander Lowrey,*
17 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
18 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
19 *Henry Miller,*
20 *David M'Conaughy,*
21 *Michael Schmyſer,*
22 *Philip Gartner,*
23 *Joſeph Lilly,*
24 *Henry Tyſon,*
25 *David M'Clellan,*
26 *Adam Eichelberger,*
27 *Nicholas Lutz,*
28 *Philip Kreemer,*
29 *Peter Richards,*
30 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *John Clark,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *John Carothers,*
7 *Frederick Watts,*
8 *John Creigh,*
9 *Abraham Lincoln,*
10 *Henry Spyker,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Baltſer Gehr,*
13 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
14 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter,*
16 *Robert Brown,*

NAYS.

17 *John Piper,*
18 *Frederick Antes,*
19 *Samuel Dale,*
20 *William Todd,*
21 *William Findley,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *John Smilie,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *John Rhea,*
27 *Robert Loller,*
28 *Adam Orth,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *David Krouſe,*
31 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

REASONS *for our* VOTE.

1ſt. BECAUSE neither the nature of the caſe, nor the propoſition before the Houſe, admit of the idea, that it is deſigned to paſs a law on this occaſion; and yet the application to the Legiſlature, after the petitioners have failed with the Supreme Executive, ſuppoſes that ſomething equivalent to a law is neceſſary: and we are decided, that for this Houſe to legiſlate by ſudden reſolve, not publiſhed for the conſideration of our conſtituents, would be a flagrant violation of the 15th ſection of the Frame of Government; and ſuch we find to be the ſenſe of the Council of Cenſors. We are of opinion, that if ſuch ſummary and informal proceedings in the legiſlature of this ſtate, as the preſent, were not oppoſed to the conſtitution, yet, as they are more eſpecially capable of abuſe in a ſingle Houſe of Aſſembly, they ought to be moſt carefully avoided in *Pennſylvania*.

2d. Becauſe, If particular perſons could be gratified by the enacting of laws in the moſt formal manner for ſuch purpoſes, yet, as the goods and treaſure of the commonwealth would thereby be ſquandered, we reſiſt the firſt approach to ſuch an evil; for there are multitudes in the ſtate, who would be apt to ſuppoſe that the claim of each of them in particular upon the generoſity of the Houſe is equal, if not ſuperior, to that of the preſent petitioners; and we are confident, that no community whatſoever would ſubmit to be taxed to ſupport ſuch miſapplications, as it is manifeſt that ſuch favours can be granted only to a few favorites; a limitation, however it may be in the power of an abſolute monarch to maintain, is impoſſible in a democracy, where all ſtand upon an equality, and claim equal rights. If then an improper precedent ſhould be ſet, of diſtributing the public property among the citizens, there would ſoon be an end of the goods and treaſure of the ſtate.

3d. Becauſe, That we, as truſtees of the intereſt of our conſtituents, have no right to be generous at their expence; and beſides, if it were otherwiſe, we ſhould be juſt, before there is opportunity for generoſity to operate. The ſtate is in debt, and debts ſhould be paid in the firſt place.

4th. Becauſe, That if it were conſiſtent with our duty, as faithful guardians of the rights of the people, to liſten to ſuch demands as the preſent, yet we ſhould be far from conſenting to part with the ſmalleſt number of the few pieces of field ordnance remaining to this ſtate, whilſt a very important article of the late treaty of peace between the United States of *America* and his *Britannic* majeſty, to wit, the giving up to Congreſs the north weſtern poſts, has not been executed by him, and whilſt the nation, of which he is the head, ſtill diſcovers a very inimical temper towards this country.

Robert Whitehill,
John Smith,
John Clark,
Adam Orth,
John Creigh,
David Krouſe,
Robert Clark,
John M'Dowell,
John Piper,

James M'Calmont,
John Smilie,
Abraham Smith,
John Rhea,
Frederick Watts,
William Todd,
William Findley,
Samuel Dale.

The motion read *December* 1ſt, reſpecting the appointment of a perſon to draught the bills of this Houſe, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas it is of the utmoſt importance to the good people of this commonwealth, that the laws paſſed by the legiſlature ſhould not only be wiſely framed, but accurately expreſſed:

And whereas it has been found by experience, that great delays have ariſen in the buſineſs of this Houſe, for want of a proper officer to draw bills intended to be paſſed: Therefore

Reſolved, That this Houſe will, on *Saturday* next, elect by ballot a ſuitable perſon, whoſe duty it ſhall be to draught or reviſe ſuch bills as may be committed to him by this General Aſſembly, or a committee thereof, (which officer ſhall be removable at their pleaſure;) but that no perſon ſhall be elected, who has not been nominated by ſome member of this Houſe before the day of election.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, *&c.* relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for debating the ſame.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petition of *Daniel Humphreys*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on the petition of *Daniel Humphreys*, Printer, praying to have acceſs to the minutes of the Houſe, in order for early publication, report——

That they have conſidered the ſubject; and, in conſequence of the appointment of a Printer already had for that particular purpoſe, beg leave to obſerve, that it appears to them highly improper to authoriſe more than one perſon to perform this buſineſs, ſince different appointments might poſſibly introduce variations in the Journals of the Houſe, and diſable the public from deciding which ought moſt to be relied on.

Your committee apprehend that the petitioner may be enabled to ſerve his ſubſcribers in an agreeable and profitable manner, by procuring a copy of the printed minutes from the Printers already appointed; further than which, they think the Houſe cannot with ſafety proceed, and therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioner cannot, with propriety, be granted.

The report of the committee read *December* 1ſt, on the petitions for and againſt extending the market in *High-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the trials of controverted elections,* "*or returns of members to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* " Donegal *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until *Monday* next at ten o'clock, A. M.

Monday, *December* 5, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Cam*, in behalf of himſelf and others, non-commiſſioned officers and privates late of the ſtate navy, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation on their pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions ſigned by 301 of the freemen and electors of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* were read, ſetting forth, that by the preſent law many of the electors, on the 11th day of *October* laſt, were excluded from their rights of freemen, to vote for repreſentatives in the General Aſſembly and other officers, by the cloſing of the poll before their votes could be taken; and praying that the ſaid election law may be reviſed, and ſuch amendments made therein as may remove unneceſſary embarraſſments, and afford full time to all the electors to vote freely.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the members of the congregation of *Leacock* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *J. Irvine*,

Ordered, That the members of the city and county of *Philadelphia* be a committee to viſit the gaol of the ſaid city and county, to inſpect the ſituation of the priſoners confined therein, and report thereon to this Houſe.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt, on the petition of the members of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for inſuring houſes from loſs by fire, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The committee of accounts, to whom was referred, *December* 3d, the account of *Henry Weaver*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Preſident, or Vice-Preſident, and the Supreme Executive Council, be authoriſed to draw on the State Treaſurer for *nineteen pounds and three pence*, in favour of the ſaid *Henry Weaver*.

The committee, to whom were referred, *November* 25th, 28th and 30th, the memorial of the committee of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the memorials from ſundry inhabitants, praying for an additional impoſt upon nails and bar iron imported into this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, praying *Aughwick* creek may be declared a public highway.

It was moved by Mr. *Piper*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce a motion, for the purpoſe of tranſmitting to the Prothonotary of *Bedford* county a copy of the ſaid petitions, to be by him publiſhed, in order that the perſons concerned may ſhew cauſe, if any they have, why the prayer of the ſaid petitions ſhould not be granted.

Which was carried in the affirmative, and the aforeſaid motion was preſented to the chair and read: Whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *November* 23d, on the petitions of *Andrew Bunner* and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the further conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the trials of controverted elections, or* "*returns of members to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth.*"

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Epiſcopal congregation of the church commonly* "*called*

" *called* Bangor *church, in* Church-town, Carnarvon *townſhip, and county of* " Lancaſter, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for removing and incorporating St.* James's *chapel, in* Carnarvon *townſhip*, Berks *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 6, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the northernmoſt parts of the county of *Montgomery*, and of part of the counties of *Northampton* and *Berks*, was read, ſetting forth the great difficulty and danger they are ſubjected to in croſſing *Great Swamp* creek, in *Marlborough* townſhip, in *Montgomery* county, and ſtating the inability of the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhip to build a bridge over the ſaid creek; therefore praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing and eſtabliſhing a lottery for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, to whom were referred, *November* 21ſt, the petition of *William M'Culloch, William Crabb* and *Henry Moore*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 28th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, relative to laying out a road from the *Water-Gap* of the river *Lehigh* to *Wyoming*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, of *December* 3d, the Houſe proceeded to debate the report of the committee reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, which having been read as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom was referred that part of the Meſſage from Council, which reſpected the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, together with the memorial from ſundry inhabitants of *Northampton* county, and other papers on that ſubject, report——

That conſidering the buſineſs ſo referred to be of high importance, they have paid particular attention thereto, and find,

That there has long and does ſtill ſubſiſt in that diſtrict a ſpirit of licentiouſneſs and diſobedience, highly injurious to the honor of the ſtate, and prejudicial to many of the good citizens thereof.

They are further of opinion, that all offenders againſt the peace and good order of the government ſhould be called to account for their tranſgreſſions, and that the peaceable citizens ſhould be protected in their lives and property.

They are nevertheleſs deſirous that where lenity is likely to reclaim, it ſhould be tried before coercion, and therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill, granting pardon and indemnity for all tranſgreſſions committed againſt the peace of the commonwealth, on or before the   day of   by any of the inhabitants of *Northampton* or *Northumberland* counties, on account or by reaſon of the diſpute between the people called *Connecticut* claimants, and other citizens of this ſtate; provided that every ſuch offender ſurrender himſelf at the court-houſe of the county wherein he reſides, on the day of and there enter into recognizance, with one ſurety, for his good behaviour for twelve months then next enſuing.

And that the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be directed to employ ſo many of the militia of this commonwealth, and for ſo long a time as they may judge neceſſary for duly enforcing the laws in the counties aforeſaid, and for bringing to juſtice all ſuch offenders as may refuſe or neglect to comply with the terms here propoſed; and that they be authoriſed to draw on the State Treaſurer, for a ſum not exceeding pounds, for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

The committee recommend a repeal of ſo much of the Act paſſed the ninth day of *September*, 1783, as confirms the appointment of Magiſtrates in the diſtricts of *Shawaneſe*, *Stoke* and *Wyoming*.

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Thomas*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce, in lieu thereof, the following motion, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the granting of a general pardon and indemnity, as to all offences whatſoever, to the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Wyoming*, *Stoke* and *Shawaneſe*, in the county of *Northumberland*, and to all other perſons within the ſame county, who, claiming to hold and occupy lands under grants of the ſtate of *Connecticut* in the county of *Northampton*, have diſowned the government, and oppoſed the execution of the laws of this commonwealth; provided, that each and every of the male perſons, chargeable with breaches of the peace, or other miſdemeanors and offences as aforeſaid, do, on or before the day of next, appear before one or more of the Juſtices of the Peace of either of the counties aforeſaid, and that he become bound by recognizance to the commonwealth, with one or more ſureties, for his good behaviour for one year from the taking ſuch recognizance; and that the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be enabled and directed, if need be, to draw out and employ ſuch and ſo many of the militia of this commonwealth, for ſuch time as they ſhall deem fitting, to enforce and ſupport the execution of the laws in the townſhips thereof aforeſaid, and in the county adjoining the ſame townſhips, by aiding the Sheriff and other civil officers, in like manner as the *poſſe commitatus* of the proper county ought to do; and that the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this commonwealth for ſuch ſums of money, for the purpoſe aforeſaid, not exceeding the ſum of the ſame to be paid out of the unappropriated monies in the hands of the ſaid Treaſurer; and that ſo much of the act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for the repeal of an act,* "*entituled* "An Act to prevent and ſtay ſuits brought againſt the inhabitants "of *Wyoming* during the times therein mentioned, and for other purpoſes "therein mentioned," paſſed on the tenth day of *September*, 1783, as confirms the election, and directs the appointment of Juſtices of the Peace for the county of *Northumberland*, upon elections holden in the two diſtricts therein mentioned.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?"

It was carried in the negative.

Whereupon the Houſe proceeded to the conſideration of the foregoing report, and having fully conſidered the ſame,

On the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"

It was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

The committee appointed *November* 29th, for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance* "*of the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citi-* "*zenſhip,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 7, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from ſundry perſons, formerly creditors of *Lewis Nicola,* Eſq; was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1775, the ſaid *Lewis Nicola,* Eſq; from the diſtractions of the times, which prevented his recovering ſundry debts due to him, and other cauſes, was not able to ſatisfy all his creditors, nor had he the means during the courſe of the war; but when, after the peace, the accounts of the army were ſettled, and certificates given, he, deſirous to do the beſt in his power for his creditors, gave them certificates in his own name, or others procured from the Treaſury of the United States in exchange for ſome of his own, in the names of the reſpective creditors, which certificates were received for the full value expreſſed in them, which the ſubſcribers, for themſelves and a few more creditors, apprehend gave them a juſt title to draw the intereſt due or to become due on them, they proving, by the teſtimony of ſaid *Lewis Nicola,* that they obtained ſuch certificates in the manner above related; therefore praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and to make ſuch proviſion therein as ſhall ſeem juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and petition of divers non-reſident owners of land in the townſhips of *Wyoming, Stoke* and *Shawaneſe,* poſſeſſed by and contiguous to the ſettlements of the *Connecticut* claimants in the county of *Northumberland,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *September* 13th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Robert Robinſon,* read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Lowry* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Nathaniel Galt,* read *November* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Carothers,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Weitzel,* read *November* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hannum,* Mr. *Gehr* and Mr. *Trail,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 30th, on the petition from divers freemen, inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* praying for a repeal of the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth,* "*entituled* " A Supplement to an act, entituled " An Act to enable *William* "*Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon*

“ and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of “ *Cheſter*, and ſell the old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*,” made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 5th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the committee of merchants of the city of *Philadelphia*, together with the memorials from ſundry inhabitants, praying for an additional impoſt upon nails and bar iron imported into this ſtate, report——

That the additional duties impoſed by the Act of the 20th day of *Septemtember* laſt upon wines and fruit, the growth of the territories of *Portugal*, if ſuffered to take effect, will in their opinion be the means of depriving this ſtate of a market for a very conſiderable part of its product, and that ſo much of the act aforeſaid, as impoſes theſe duties, ought to be repealed:

That it has been ſtated to the committee, that not leſs than 300 tons of nails have been imported into this ſtate within twelve months laſt paſt, which, at a moderate computation, is worth *nineteen thouſand three hundred pounds*; and that, with proper encouragement, the whole quantity neceſſary for the conſumption of the ſtate may in a ſhort time be made here; and as the principal materials are the product of the ſtate, almoſt the whole of that ſum may be ſaved to the commonwealth:

That with reſpect to bar iron, it appears that a ſufficient quantity may be made in the ſtate, not only for its particular uſe, but a large overplus for exportation; but that by the large importations lately made, the price is ſo much reduced as to diſable the owners of forges to go on with their buſineſs: Your committtee, however, viewing bar iron as neceſſary to the agriculture and manufactures of the ſtate, are doubtful of the propriety of impoſing a tax upon the importation thereof at this time; and therefore recommend the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for repealing ſo much of the act paſſed on the 20th of *September* laſt, entituled “ *An Act to* “ *encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties* “ *on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them*,” as impoſes an additional duty upon wines and fruits, the growth of the iſlands or colonies of *Portugal*; and to impoſe an additional duty of *one penny per* pound on all nails or ſpikes imported into this ſtate after the
day of

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Carothers*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed *December* 2d, reſpecting the mode for obtaining a juſt and true return of all the taxable inhabitants within the city and ſeveral counties of this ſtate.

Moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Lincoln*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid motion, in order that he, Mr. *Whitehill*, may read in his place a bill, entituled “ *An Act to aſcertain the* “ *number of taxable inhabitants within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each* “ *of the counties of this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*.”

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement of the “ ſaid motion, for the above purpoſe?”

It was carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon Mr. *Whitehill*, in his place, read the aforeſaid bill, and, having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the Chair, when it was read the firſt time at the table, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to debate the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the trials of controverted elections, or returns of* "*members to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth,*" and after ſome debate had thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the Chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* Frederick Mehl *in certain lots of* "*land, ſituated and being within the townſhips of* Germantown *and* Briſtol, *in* "*the county of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made by Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Hand*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for a ſecond reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of* "*the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip.*"

Adjourned until half an hour after nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 8, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and memorial from the Juſtices of the Peace, the Grand Jury, Commiſſioners and inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth, that they have for a long time beheld with great concern that the laws and government of this ſtate have been trampled upon by a number of evil diſpoſed perſons at *Wyoming*; that the civil officers have in vain attempted to exerciſe their ſeveral powers, the public taxes cannot be levied, and that the good citizens of this ſtate have been abuſed and driven from their ſettlements; and praying this Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration, and to grant ſuch ſpeedy relief as the neceſſity of the occaſion requires.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Catharine Smith*, was read, ſetting forth, that ſhe had, previous to the war, erected griſt, ſaw, boring and hemp-mills, upon a tract of 300 acres of land, by her located, at the mouth of *White-Deer* creek, in the county of *Northumberland*; that in *July*, 1779, the whole works were deſtroyed by the *Indians*; that in 1783 ſhe rebuilt the griſt and ſaw-mills; that ejectments are brought againſt her by Meſſrs. *Claypoole* and *Morris*; and ſtating her low and reduced circumſtances, whereby ſhe is unable to defend her rights; therefore praying this Houſe to grant her relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Cam*, in behalf of himſelf and others, read *December* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Brown* and *Hannah Brown*, read *November* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Hannum*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 28th, on the petition of *John Stephens*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Auguſtus Patterſon* was read, ſetting forth, that he acted in different capacities in the armies of the United States during the late war; that for fifteen months ſervice, as Engineer in Colonel *Procter*'s regiment, he never received any pay, owing to his not having been entered on the books of the ſaid regiment as an officer; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 2d, on the petition of Lieutenant-Colonel *James Moore*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 6th, on the petitions of *William M'Culloch, William Crabb* and *Henry Moore*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw on the State Treaſurer, in favour of *William Crabb* and *Henry Moore*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings* each, for their attendance as witneſſes in a conteſted election, held at *Garber*'s mill; and in favour of *William M'Culloch*, for *ſeven pounds ten ſhillings*, for his attendance as a witneſs on the ſame election.

The report of the committee, read *December* 6th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Northampton* county, praying a road may be laid out from the *Water-Gap* of the river *Lehigh* to *Wyoming*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed yeſterday, for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An act for the incorporating the congregation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church, commonly called* Bangor *church, and ſchool, in* Church-town, Carnarvon *townſhip, and county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for removing the Proteſtant Epiſcopal chapel of St.* Thomas, *in* Carnarvon *townſhip*, Berks *county, and for incorporating the congregation thereof*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 9, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks* was read, ſetting forth, that they have experienced the late law for regulating the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill* to be very beneficial; that they have been informed their brethren near the mouth of the ſaid river have petitioned this Houſe to repeal the ſaid law, and that they conſider ſuch a meaſure would deprive them of their right to an equal participation in the ſaid fiſheries; therefore praying that the aforeſaid law may not be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt and 30th, on the petition from the Board of Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college; on the petitions from divers freeholders of the county of *Lancaſter*; on the petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*; and on the repreſentation from the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh*, reſpecting the inſtitution of public ſchools, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the number of taxable inhabitants* "*within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each of the counties of this com*"*monwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time *December* 7th, was read the ſecond time; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſame liſts of taxble inhabitants ſhall be taken from the aſſeſſments which ſhall be taken and formed upon the returns to be made to the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, by the aſſeſſors of each townſhip, ward and diſtrict therein, in purſuance of their warrant to be iſſued on or immediately after the firſt day of *January* next, as directed in and by an act of Aſſembly, entituled "*An* "*Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of* "*the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the* "*public debts of this ſtate,*" after the appeal allowed from the ſaid aſſeſſments to the inhabitants of the reſpective county ſhall be holden and ended, and the ſaid aſſeſſments ſhall be confirmed and regulated, accordingly to the allowances and exonerations then given.

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To ſtrike out, after the words "*ſhall be taken from the aſſeſſments which,*" the words "*ſhall be taken and,*" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "*have been*;" and to ſtrike out, after the words "*formed upon the returns,*" the words "*to be*; and after the words "*of their warrant,*" the words "*to* "*be*;" and after the words "*the firſt day of,*" the words "January *next,*" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "June *laſt.*"

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"

It was determined in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Evans*,

To ſtrike out from the words "*taxable inhabitants ſhall be taken,*" until the words "*be after the appeal,*" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "*from the laſt aſſeſſments which ſhall have been taken and formed upon the re*"*turns made to the commiſſioners of the city and of the ſeveral counties of this* "*ſtate, by the aſſeſſors of each townſhip, ward and diſtrict therein.*"

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"

It was determined in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe poſtpone the ſame?"

It was determined in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *Wayne*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To poſtpone the paragraph under conſideration, in order to introduce, in lieu thereof, the following, *viz.*

Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the commiſſioners of the city of *Philadelphia*, and of each county within this commonwealth, ſhall, and they are hereby enjoined and required to meet, at ſuch convenient time and place as they may appoint, and ſhall make out a true and exact liſt of all and every of the taxable inhabitants in each townſhip, ward or diſtrict in the ſaid city, and each of the ſaid counties, according to the return next before the time of the ſaid meeting to them made by the aſſiſtant aſſeſſors of the townſhips, wards or diſtricts of the ſaid city, and of each of the ſaid reſpective counties; and ſhall certify the number and names of the ſaid taxable inhabitants within the ſaid city and counties reſpectively, under their hands and ſeals, or under the hands and ſeals of any two of them for the ſaid city and for each county; and ſhall deliver, or cauſe to be delivered, the ſaid liſts to the General Aſſembly, at or before the expiration of ten days after the beginning of the next ſitting of the ſaid Aſſembly: And in order to prevent any undue practices in making out the ſaid returns and certificates, the ſaid commiſſioners, or ſo many of them as ſhall certify the ſaid returns, ſhall, before ſome Juſtice of the Peace of the proper county, make oath or affirmation (which ſuch Juſtice is hereby required and impowered to adminiſter, and certify under his hand and ſeal, underneath each of the ſaid certificates) that the liſt of taxable inhabitants by them made out is juſt and true, according to the beſt of their knowledge and belief.

And on the queſtion,— "Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *Hubley*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Anthony Wayne,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *John Hannum,*
13 *Robert Smith,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Jonathan Morris,*

YEAS.

16 *Edward Hand,*
17 *Adam Hubley,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Henry Miller,*
23 *David M'Conaughy,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *Philip Gartner,*
26 *Joſeph Lilly,*
27 *Henry Tyſon,*
28 *David M'Clellan,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*

NAYS.

10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Baltſer Gehr,*
16 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
17 *Robert Trail,*
18 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

NAYS.

19 *Peter Burkhalter,*
20 *Robert Brown,*
21 *John Piper,*
22 *Frederick Antes,*
23 *Samuel Dale,*
24 *William Todd,*
25 *William Findley,*
26 *John M'Dowell,*
27 *John Smilie,*
28 *James M'Calmont,*
29 *Abraham Smith,*
30 *John Rhea,*
31 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
32 *Peter Richards,*
33 *Adam Orth,*
34 *Robert Clark,*
35 *David Krouſe.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Whereupon, The ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 10, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from Colonel *Michael Lindemuth* was read, ſetting forth, that in 1780, in conſequence of the depredations of the *Indians*, he, with the advice of Colonel *Shoemaker* and other officers of the militia, drew forth a ſmall party of the militia, to retard the inroads of the ſavages until the pleaſure of government ſhould be known; that he afterwards received orders from the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council to diſmiſs the men, who, apprehenſive of further danger, entreated the petitioner to the contrary, and by their advice meſſengers were ſent to the Supreme Executive Council, to inform them of their diſtreſſed ſituation; that thereupon the Vice-Preſident ordered the men to be continued in ſervice until relieved; therefore praying this Houſe to direct payment for thoſe ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William May*, late Quarter-Maſter of Colonel *Michael Lindemuth*'s battalion of *Berks* county militia, was read, ſetting forth, that he was divers times in the year 1780 ordered out with the militia; that whilſt out, he was frequently compelled to purchaſe and procure, on his own credit, proviſions and other neceſſaries; that he hath frequently applied for payment, as well for thoſe ſupplies as for his own ſervices, but without the deſired effect; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, praying that a committee may be appointed, to examine into the principles of a machine for promoting navigation and other uſeful purpoſes, a model whereof was with the ſaid petition preſented, in order that, ſhould it anſwer the deſired purpoſe, he may at a future day be rewarded according to the utility of the invention.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An account from *Robert Aitkin*, for printing one hundred copies of a plan for liquidating the debts of this ſtate, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from five hundred and eight inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying that the courts of juſtice may be removed from *Newtown* to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Catharine Smith,* read *December* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be diſmiſſed.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the member who preſented the petition, *November* 30th, of the officers and others of the tenth battalion of militia (late of *Lancaſter*) but now of the county of *Dauphin,* have leave to withdraw the ſame.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the order of the day, for electing a perſon to draught or reviſe ſuch bills as may be committed to him by this General Aſſembly, be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petitions for and againſt extending the Market in *High-ſtreet,* in the city of *Philadelphia,* poſtponed *December* 2d; and after conſiderable debate thereon, the ſame was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the ſeveral petitions for and againſt extending the Market in *High-ſtreet,* have attended to that buſineſs; and it appearing to them clearly that many of the people who attend with their produce are exceedingly expoſed to the inclemency of the weather, not only as to the articles which they bring, but alſo to the manifeſt prejudice of their health: Therefore offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill empowering the Wardens of the city to extend the Market in *High-ſtreet,* from *Third* to *Fourth-ſtreet,* and ſo on from ſquare to ſquare, as may be found neceſſary and convenient.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, *December* 5th, a member preſented to the Chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the Mutual Aſſurance Company,* " *for inſuring houſes from loſs by fire, to ratify and confirm the articles of agree-* " *ment of the contributors, and to enable them to make ſuitable bye-laws, for the* " *better management and proſecution of their ſaid deſign,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to en- " courage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional du- " ties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, December 12, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the religious ſociety of Free Quakers in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, as follows, *viz.*

T

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL *of the Religious Society of* FREE QUAKERS *in the City of* Philadelphia,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT we obſerve with concern, that there are conſiderable efforts making to eſtabliſh theatrical entertainments in this city, notwithſtanding the law prohibiting them, paſſed by a former Houſe. We cannot ſtand by, and be ſilent and indifferent ſpectators, whilſt ſo great an evil is impending over the people; but conceive it to be our duty to join with our chriſtian brethren of other religious ſocieties, in ſhewing our diſapprobation of all ſuch deluſive entertainments. Although many arguments occur to us againſt thoſe exhibitions, yet, as divers members of your Honorable Houſe have ſpoken well againſt them, we conceive it not neceſſary for us to be very particular; but beg leave to ſay, that we conſider theatrical entertainments in general to be a perfect contradiction to the ſpirit of the chriſtian religion, many plays being indecent and profane; and we apprehend that the ſtage, even under the beſt regulations, will tend to draw away the minds of the *young* and *inexperienced* into a love of diſſipation and ſenſual pleaſures. Suffer us alſo to ſay, that it is an obſervation founded on wiſdom, and juſtified by experience, that the more we indulge our vices and paſſions, the leſs concern we muſt have for the intereſt of our country and the proſperity of the public.

We therefore pray the Honorable Houſe, as guardians of the rights and enſamples of the morals of the people, will diſcountenance all theatrical exhibitions in *Pennſylvania.*

Signed, on behalf of the ſaid Religious Society, the 10*th Day of the Twelfth Month,* 1785, *by*

Chriſtopher Marſhall,
Iſaac Howell,
Peter Thomſon,
Moſes Bartram,
Richard Somers,
Jacob Karacher,
Jonathan Scholfield,
Joſeph Stiles,
Samuel Wetherill, jun.
Joſeph Warner,
Jehu Eldridge,
John Piles,
Samuel Criſpin,
Jacob Lawn,
John Claypoole,
Samuel Criſpin, jun,
Edward Riffetts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 7th, on the petition of *Nathaniel Galt,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for veſting in the *American* Philoſophical Society, held at *Philadelphia,* for the " promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the " State-Houſe ſquare," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday,

Tueſday, *December* 13, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants (being qualified electors) of the county of *Montgomery* were read, ſetting forth, that they do not conceive that they are fairly repreſented in this Houſe in the perſon of *Thomas Rees*, Eſq; inaſmuch as the number of votes for the ſaid *Thomas Rees*, at the election, did not exceed the number for *Samuel Wheeler*, Eſq; that as the ſaid *Thomas Rees* had not a majority of votes, they are fearful leſt the preſent caſe ſhould be drawn into a dangerous precedent, whereby the right of election might be ſubverted, and an improper ſyſtem eſtabliſhed, contrary to the ſpirit of the conſtitution; they therefore, as freemen tenacious of their liberties, pray the Houſe to take the matter into conſideration, and to iſſue a writ for the holding a new election for a repreſentative for the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions for and againſt removing the Courts of Juſtice from *Newtown*, to a more central part of the county of *Bucks*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *J. Morris* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth, the fidelity and allegiance of the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip*," was read the ſecond time; and after debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That each and every of the male white inhabitants of this commonwealth, who by reaſon of having omitted or neglected to take and ſubſcribe all or any of the oaths or affirmations of allegiance and fidelity to this commonwealth, as required by the ſeveral laws thereof, or any of them, is or have been debarred of any of the rights of citizenſhip, or of any rights, privileges or advantages whatſoever, ſhall, immediately from and after his taking and ſubſcribing, before any Juſtice of the Peace within the county wherein he reſides, the following oath of allegiance and abjuration, be, and he is hereby declared to be a free citizen of this commonwealth, and entitled to all and every the rights and privileges thereof.

On the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Atlee*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *James Irvine*,
5 *George Clymer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Anthony Wayne*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *James Moore*,

YEAS.

14 *Thomas Bull*,
15 *John Hannum*,
16 *Robert Smith*,
17 *Samuel Evans*,
18 *Jonathan Morris*,
19 *Edward Hand*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Alexander Lowrey*,
22 *Samuel J. Atlee*,
23 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
24 *Joſeph Work*,
25 *Henry Miller*,
26 *David M'Conaughy*,

YEAS.

27 *Michael Schmyſer,*
28 *Philip Gartner,*
29 *Joſeph Lilly,*
30 *Henry Tyſon,*
31 *David M'Clellan,*
32 *Adam Eichelberger,*
33 *John Carothers,*
34 *John Creigh,*
35 *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

36 *Robert Trail,*
37 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
38 *Peter Burkhalter,*
39 *Robert Brown,*
40 *William Todd,*
41 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
42 *Robert Loller,*
43 *Peter Richards,*
44 *Thomas Rees.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Joſeph Thomas,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *Frederick Watts,*
7 *Abraham Lincoln,*
8 *Nicholas Lutz,*
9 *Henry Spyker,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Baltſer Gehr,*
13 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

14 *Frederick Antes,*
15 *Samuel Dale,*
16 *William Findley,*
17 *John M'Dowell,*
18 *John Smilie,*
19 *James M'Calmont,*
20 *Abraham Smith,*
21 *John Rhea,*
22 *Adam Orth,*
23 *Robert Clark,*
24 *David Krouſe,*
25 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative; and the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—"Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *R. Morris*, and are as follows, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Anthony Wayne,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Thomas Bull,*
15 *John Hannum,*
16 *Robert Smith,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Jonathan Morris,*
19 *Edward Hand,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

21 *Alexander Lowrey,*
22 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
23 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
24 *Joſeph Work,*
25 *Henry Miller,*
26 *David M'Conaughy,*
27 *Michael Schmyſer,*
28 *Philip Gartner,*
29 *Joſeph Lilly,*
30 *Henry Tyſon,*
31 *David M'Clellan,*
32 *Adam Eichelberger,*
33 *John Carothers,*
34 *John Creigh,*
35 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
36 *Robert Trail,*
37 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
38 *Peter Burkhalter,*
39 *Robert Brown,*
40 *William Todd,*

YEAS.

41 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
42 *Robert Loller,*
43 *Peter Richards,*

YEAS.

44 *Thomas Rees,*
45 *David Krouſe.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Joſeph Thomas,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *Frederick Watts,*
7 *Abraham Lincoln,*
8 *Nicholas Lutz,*
9 *Henry Spyker,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Baltſer Gehr,*

NAYS.

13 *John Piper,*
14 *Frederick Antes,*
15 *Samuel Dale,*
16 *William Findley,*
17 *John M'Dowell,*
18 *John Smilie,*
19 *James M'Calmont,*
20 *Abraham Smith,*
21 *John Rhea,*
22 *Adam Orth,*
23 *Robert Clark,*
24 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 14, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, December* 14, 1785.

SIR,

INCLOSED is a letter from the Governor of the ſtate of *New-Hampſhire,* with an act and reſolution of the Legiſlature of that ſtate, which, for the information of the Houſe, I have now the honor of tranſmitting to you.

With the greateſt regard,

I am, SIR,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

The Hon. THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the encloſures were alſo read.

The petition of *William Tharpe,* read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Edward Stiles,* read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Bull,* Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Carothers,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Jacob Weaver*, *Chriſtian Piercy*, *Jacob [illegible]*, *[illegible] Co[illegible]den* and *Sophia Taylor*, was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioners apprentices enliſted in the *Pennſylvania* regiments in the ſervice of the United States; that in conſequence of an act of the General Aſſembly, paſſed the 12th day of *March*, 1778, the petitioners, knowing others had received a compenſation for their ſervants and apprentices, applied to the county treaſurer for payment of the time their apprentices ought reſpectively to have ſerved, but were informed by the treaſurer that he could not pay them, without the order of the General Aſſembly; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Edward Hand*, Eſquire, a repreſentative in Aſſembly for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, requeſting leave to reſign his ſeat as a member of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt a bill preſented to this Houſe, for eſtabliſhing a theatre in the city of *Philadelphia*, and praying the ſame bill may be rejected, in ſuch manner as will effectually prevent the eſtabliſhment of ſtage plays.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Fitch*, read *December* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the prayer of the ſaid petition.

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, to re-conſider the following rule for the government of this Houſe, *viz.*

"The motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement, or re-commitment, " ſhall preclude amendment, *and further debate on the original ſubject*; but " the previous queſtion cannot be moved by leſs than four members;"

Whereupon, On motion,

Ordered, That the words, "*and further debate on the original ſubject*," be ſtruck out.

The committee of accounts, to whom were preſented ſeveral accounts, for printing, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 8th, on the petition of *John Cam*, in behalf of himſelf and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 8th, on the petition of *John Stephens*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *December* 9th, on the petitions from the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college, &c. was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petitions from the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college, and from the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh*, *Lancaſter* and *Montgomery*, reſpecting the inſtitution of county ſchools, report——

That they have taken the ſame into their conſideration, together with that part of the Conſtitution which propoſes the public endowment of univerſities and county ſchools, and though they do not conceive the preſent pecuniary funds of the ſtate will admit of any general proviſion to be made in conſequence, yet, as *Dickinſon* college requires ſome immediate aid for the indiſpenſible accommodation of its ſtudents, they recommend a ſmall legiſlative grant of money to the Truſtees, to be applied to that purpoſe.

But the committee are of opinion that the ſtate poſſeſſes the means, by ſuitable appropriations of the public lands, of making proviſion, againſt a future day, for ſuch of the ſchools and ſeminaries of learning as are deſigned by the article in the Conſtitution, and of thus anſwering the moſt benevolent and liberal views, at the eaſieſt poſſible expence.

The committee, therefore, offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill,

1ſt. To grant *five hundred pounds* to the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college, for the uſes of ſaid college.

2d. To grant 10,000 acres of the public lands to the Truſtees of *Dickinſon* college aforeſaid, in truſt for the uſes of ſaid college.

3d. To reſerve 60,000 acres of the public lands, as a general fund for the endowment of ſuch county ſchools as may be eſtabliſhed in purſuance of the 44th ſection of the Conſtitution of this ſtate, to be ſpecially appropriated, as occaſions may ariſe, by the General Aſſembly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Atlee*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Creigh*, be a committee for the purpoſes mentioned in the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed *December* 8th, relative to laying out a road from *Lehigh* to *Wyoming*; and the ſame having been fully debated, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of divers inhabitants of *Northampton* county, praying that commiſſioners may be appointed to lay out and open a road from the *Water-Gap* of the river *Lehigh* to the *Wyoming* ſettlement, beg leave to report——

That it is the opinion of your committee, that a road laid out and opened as aforeſaid would be of great utility, by affording a ready, eaſy and convenient conveyance of the produce of the northern parts of the ſtate to this city, by means of a water carriage much the greater part of the way; they alſo conceive it would conduce to facilitate the ſale of the vacant lands in that part of the new purchaſe, which at preſent is conſidered as almoſt inacceſſible: Your committee are alſo of opinion, that it may probably conduce to ſilencing the diſturbances at *Wyoming,* by convincing the people ſettled there that they are not out of the reach of the power of government: For theſe reaſons, your committee offer the following reſolution for the conſideration of the Houſe, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to empower the Supreme Executive Council to appoint a commiſſioner, to lay out and open a waggon road from the *Water-Gap* of the *Lehigh* to that part of the ſettlement of *Wyoming* which may be thought moſt convenient and advantageous, and that the ſum of *three hundred pounds* be appropriated for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Atlee,* Mr. *Lutz* and Mr. *Brown* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *December* 7th, on the petitions from divers freemen, inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, praying for a repeal of the act, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly of this com-*" *monwealth, entituled* " A Supplement to an act, entituled " An Act to en-" able *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sel-*" *lers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a new Court Houſe and Priſon " in the county of *Cheſter*, and to ſell the old Court Houſe and Priſon in the " borough of *Cheſter*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 2d, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Juſtices of the Supreme Court to ſupply defects "in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings reſpecting the "ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by time or accident,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 15, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, praying the ſaid city may be incorporated, and inveſted with the power of making ſuch bye-laws and regulations as would be inſtrumental in the eſtabliſhment of good order, and the prevention of crimes within the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Charles Beſſonet* and *Gerſhom Johnſon* was read, ſetting forth, that in conformity to an act of the legiſlature, they have at a conſiderable expence erected a good and ſufficient bridge over *Neſhaminy* creek; that agreeably to the laſt clauſe in the ſaid act, they are compelled to deliver up the aforeſaid bridge to the public, by receiving a reaſonable compenſation therefor; and ſtating, that a floating bridge is intended to be put acroſs the ſaid creek, at the place where the old ferry was eſtabliſhed, which, if executed, will defeat the public ſpirited intention of making the bridge erected by the petitioners free, and will continue a manifeſt burthen on the public of paying toll for ever; that they are willing at this time to comply with the ſaid proviſionary clauſe, but that if the Houſe do not chooſe to require it at preſent, they pray leave to bring in a bill to prevent the building of any bridge acroſs ſaid creek, between the aforeſaid bridge already erected and the river *Delaware.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and addreſs of Captain *James Murray,* read in the late Houſe *November* 8th, 1784, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Elizabeth Wilſon,* read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *A. Erwin,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *A. Smith,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *December* 7th, on the petition of *John Weitzel,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee of accounts, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker of the General Aſſembly be authoriſed to draw on the State Treaſurer in favour of *Thomas Bradford* for *four hundred pounds,* in part of his account for printing the laws, &c.—and in favour of *Francis Bailey* for *two hundred and fifty pounds,* in part of his account for printing, &c.

Reſolved, That the Speaker direct the Clerk to pay the accounts of ſundry perſons who furniſhed and ſet up the ſtoves in this Houſe, amounting to *fourteen pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ten-pence,* out of the money placed in his hands for the payment of contingent expences.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report, poſtponed yeſterday, and after debating the ſame, it was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was committed the ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, praying for a repeal of the law ſuſpending certain commiſſioners therein named from proceeding in building a new court-houſe and goal, *&c.* in the county of *Cheſter*, have duly attended to the ſame, as well as the law that gave riſe to ſaid petitions, together with the different circumſtances relating thereto, *viz.* the ſituation of the old and new court-houſe, the ſentiments of the members who repreſent that county, the ſtate the new court-houſe and goal are in, the expences incurred by the county in erecting ſaid buildings, and the contract entered into by the commiſſioners named in ſaid law, by their having ſold the old court-houſe and goal: The reſult of your committee's deliberations, after having duly weighed the above conſiderations, is, to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to repeal the law ſuſpending certain commiſſioners therein named from proceeding in building a new court-houſe and goal, *&c.* in the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Lutz*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A member, with permiſſion, read in his place a bill, entituled "*An Act* "*to inveſt the Supreme Executive Council with full powers to lay out, and cauſe* "*to be opened, a ſtate highway from the city of* Philadelphia *to or near* Miller's "Springs, *in* Cumberland *county*;" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, which was read the firſt time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 10th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to ex*"*tend the market-houſe in* High-ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet *from* "Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time, weſtwardly, from* "*one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid* "*city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 17th, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the Act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſh"eries in the river *Schuylkill*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to impower the Juſtices of the Supreme Court* "*to ſupply defects in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings* "*reſpecting the ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by* "*time or accident*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *December* 16, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *James Lees*, late a captain of artillery in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that at the time he entered into the ſervice, he took with him and entered all his ſervants and apprentices, without receiving any compenſation for their reſpective times of ſervitude; that the auditors of accounts adjuſted his claim, and gave him a certificate for *two hundred and thirty-ſix pounds ſix ſhillings and ſix-pence*; and ſtating his diſtreſſed ſituation; therefore praying this Houſe to direct the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Martin*, collector of taxes in *Oxford* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he collected about *one hundred and fifty* or *one hundred and ſixty pounds* of the public taxes, when his houſe took fire, and the ſaid money, together with a conſiderable part of his own perſonal property, was conſumed; and praying this Houſe to direct the commiſſioners to place to his credit the aforeſaid ſum, on the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the inhabitants of the ſettlement of *Little Cove*, being part of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, read in the late Houſe *April* 8th laſt, was called up and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, remonſtrating againſt *Thomas Rees*, Eſquire, being admitted to take a ſeat in this Houſe as a repreſentative for the ſaid county, and praying a writ may be iſſued for the holding a new election for a repreſentative in the room of the ſaid *Thomas Rees*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the petitions of a ſimilar nature, read *December* 13th, were read the ſecond time; and after conſiderable debate,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The petition of *Joſeph Harriſon*, read *November* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of divers non-reſident holders of land in the townſhips of *Wyoming*, *Stoke* and *Shawaneſe*, poſſeſſed by and contiguous to the ſettlements of the *Connecticut* claimants, in the county of *Northumberland*, read *December* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *I. Irvine*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *December* 8th, on the petition of *John Brown* and *Hannah Brown*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 14th, on the petition of *John Cam*, in behalf of himſelf and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition cannot now be granted.

The ſtanding committee, appointed *November* 30th, to draught inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 6th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning* "*certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon, On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned to take up the aforeſaid bill for a ſecond reading.

A member, having obtained leave, read in his place a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the Support of Government, agreeable to the Conſtitution*;" and after permiſſion being granted, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 10th, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the Poor Laws of this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Society, known by the* "*name and ſtile of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for inſuring houſes from loſs* "*by fire, to ratify and confirm the articles of agreement of the contributors, and* "*to enable them to make ſuitable bye-laws for the better management and proſe-* "*cution of their ſaid deſign*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 17, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia*, *December* 17, 1785.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to incloſe a number of papers, which relate to the ſettlement of the juriſdiction and diviſion of the iſlands within the *Delaware*; and a letter of the Board of Treaſury of the third of *December*, with a ſtatement of the accounts of the ſeveral ſtates with the United States, as far as they relate to the requiſitions for money and ſpecific ſupplies.

I am, *SIR*,

With the greateſt regard,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

The Hon. THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq*;
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the letter from the Board of Treaſury, with the ſtatement of the accounts of the ſeveral ſtates with the United States, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The letter from *Edward Hand,* Eſquire, read *December* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted.

Whereupon, On motion made by Mr. *Hubley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey,*

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ to the Sheriff of *Lancaſter* county, commanding him to hold an election agreeably to law, for the purpoſe of electing one Member of Aſſembly in the room of *Edward Hand,* Eſquire, who hath reſigned.

A petition from the incorporated Baptiſt congregation in the townſhip and county of *Montgomery* was read, ſetting forth, that they purchaſed a lot of land, and erected thereon a convenient dwelling for a parſonage houſe; that the expence thereof has exceeded their expectation, and ſtating their inability to pay the ſame; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of *three hundred pounds,* to enable them to diſcharge the debts incurred by erecting the aforeſaid building.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Caſſan,* late a Lieutenant in the ſtate navy, was read, ſetting forth, that he entered into the ſervice in *Auguſt,* 1777; that in *April,* 1779, he was, by order of Council, removed from the gallies, and placed on board the ſhip *General Greene,* where he continued until the latter end of the ſame year; that he, being one of thoſe officers who were to be retained in the ſervice, obtained permiſſion from the Preſident of Council to go to ſea, upon condition that he ſhould, on his return, appear before the Preſident, to render ſuch ſervices as the neceſſities of the ſtate might require, which he complied with; that he conceives himſelf juſtly entitled to ſuch benefits and emoluments as were granted to officers of equal rank; therefore prays the ſame may be extended to him, or ſuch other relief granted, as this Houſe may judge reaſonable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was yeſterday re-committed the draught of inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

IN ASSEMBLY, *December* 17, 1785.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Houſe having ſhewn, in your late appointment, the ſenſe they entertain of your fitneſs to repreſent the ſtate in Congreſs, they doubt not but that its ſervice there will be attended to with zeal and ability. Thus ſatisfied with what will be the general tenor of your conduct in the delegation, they may nevertheleſs find it neceſſary to inform and inſtruct you in particular points. One at preſent occurs. It is the caſe of *Sick Keſar* and others, natives of *China* and *India,* lately arrived here from *Maryland,* as is ſet forth in the memorial tranſmitted herewith.

That ſtate, on whom it ſeemed incumbent in the firſt inſtance to provide for the neceſſities of theſe unfortunate ſtrangers, having been applied to without effect by our Executive Council, they have of courſe fallen a heavy burthen on *Pennſylvania*; but conſidering the caſe of thoſe perſons as properly a national obligation, you will give all your ſupport to their memorial to Congreſs, and endeavour to obtain a reſolution of that body, which ſhall relieve this ſtate from the charge of their preſent maintenance, and procure to them a conveyance to their own countries.

The Honorable the Delegates of
Pennſylvania.

Ordered, That the Speaker ſign the ſame.

The committee appointed *December* 7th, on the petition of *Robert Robinſon,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *John Brown* and *Hannah Brown,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *December* 15th, on the petition of *John Weitzel,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *John Weitzel,* late Lieutenant of *Northampton* county, beg leave to report——

That they have enquired into and examined the claim of *Stephen Balliot* againſt ſaid *Weitzel,* and find, that ſaid *Balliot* has in the month of *Auguſt,* 1778, paid *ſeven hundred and fifty pounds,* equal to *one hundred and fifty pounds* ſpecie, to twenty men, who had ſerved two months in the militia, as appears by the diſcharges of ſaid officers; that Mr. *Balliot* acknowledges the receipt of *three hundred and nineteen pounds,* which he received from ſundry perſons for delinquent fines; that at the ſettlement of the accounts of *Jacob Shoemaker,* then one of the Sub-Lieutenants of ſaid county, he, ſaid *Shoemaker,* gave credit to thoſe ſeveral perſons for the ſaid ſum of *three hundred and nineteen pounds,* and paid the ſame into the Treaſury on the 17th day of *December,* 1779, which is equal to *ſeven pounds thirteen ſhillings and eight-pence,* which ſum appears to be due to *Jacob Shoemaker*; that the demand of Mr. *Balliot* is for the balance of *four hundred and thirty-one pounds,* equal to *eighty-ſix pounds four ſhillings* ſpecie, and for ſix days employed in raiſing the ſaid men, at *ten ſhillings* per day; which ſums, with intereſt, appear to be juſtly due to ſaid *Balliot:* Therefore your committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to ſettle and adjuſt the ſaid accounts and charges, on principles of equity and juſtice, and carry the ſame to the credit of ſaid *John Weitzel.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Hannum,* Mr. *Gehr* and Mr. *Trail,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to examine the Minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and to report therefrom ſuch buſineſs as may be proper to lay before this Houſe: Whereupon

The bill read in the late Houſe, *September* 22d laſt, entituled, "*An Act to* "*exonerate* Jacob Kintzer, *collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Hunt-"ington, *in* York *county*; Jacob Van Foſſon, *collector of public taxes for the* "*townſhip of* Worceſter, *in the county of* Montgomery; James Snodgraſs, *col-*"*lector of military fines in* New-Britain *townſhip,* Bucks *county*; *and* Jacob "Fautz, *collector of public taxes in* Straſburg *townſhip,* Lancaſter *county, from* "*the payment of certain ſums of public money of which they were reſpectively rob-*"*bed,*" was called up, and read the firſt time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 15th, reported a bill, entituled "*An act to repeal an act, entituled,* "An Act to ſuſpend an act of

" General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " A Supplement to an " act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John* " *Kinkead*, *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build " a new Court Houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and to ſell the old " Court Houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the Support of Government, agreeable to* " *the Conſtitution*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for quieting* " *the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning certain offences, and for other* " *purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill*," was read the ſecond time; and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Gray*, ſeconded by Mr. *Logan*,

To adopt the following, as an additional clauſe, *viz.*

And whereas, by the ſeventh ſection of the aforeſaid act, it is declared, " That where two or more perſons reſiding oppoſite to each other, or near the ſaid river, on different ſides thereof, may have ſuitable wharves or landing places on their *reſpective* ſhores, or on an iſland oppoſite thereto, for taking or drawing ſeines or nets out of any pool or fiſhing place, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch perſons reſpectively to fiſh with their ſeines or nets *alternately, and not otherwiſe*; that is to ſay, ſuch perſon or perſons poſſeſſing ſuch conveniencies as above deſcribed, who ſhall reſide on one ſide of the river, ſhall or may fiſh in ſuch pool or fiſhing place, with one ſeine or net only, *for and during the time of twenty-four hours, to be computed as aforeſaid*; and the perſon or perſons poſſeſſing ſuch wharf or landing place as above deſcribed, who ſhall reſide near the other ſide of the river, ſhall or may fiſh in ſuch pool or fiſhing place, with one ſeine or net only, for and during the time of twenty-four hours, to be computed as aforeſaid, next following, and ſo alternately during the ſhad fiſhing ſeaſon :"

And whereas the reſtrictions laid upon the perſons ſo as before ſituate and deſcribed, and the limitation to which they are ſubjected by fiſhing on alternate days only, is greatly complained of, and appears to be a privation of that advantage and opportunity which nature hath afforded, and alſo abridges ſuch perſons ſo ſituate of that right and benefit which their neighbours and fellow citizens are permitted to enjoy : For remedy whereof,

Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for each and every perſon, ſo as aforeſaid ſituate and circumſtanced, to caſt, hawl and draw any one ſeine or net, made uſe of for the purpoſe of catching or taking ſhad, in the manner following, that is to ſay; any perſon or perſons reſiding oppoſite each other ſhall or may be permitted and allowed to caſt, hawl and draw their reſpective nets or ſeines in and upon all or any of the days, and within the times in this Act limited and preſcribed. *Provided always*, That from and after the time on which any one perſon, ſo ſituate as aforeſaid, ſhall have caſt or taken out his ſeine or net, until the time on which he ſhall have brought in the forepart thereof to the ſhore from whence it was taken, no perſon whatſoever, holding land or reſiding oppoſite to the ſaid ſhore or fiſhing place, ſhall caſt or take out any ſeine or net as aforeſaid; but that when the net or ſeine firſt caſt and taken out ſhall have regained the ſhore from whence it was taken, then, and not otherwiſe, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the other perſon, reſiding or holding land oppoſite thereto, to caſt, take out and hawl his ſeine or net in the manner above mentioned, and ſo on alternately, on the days and times in this act preſcribed; any thing in the act aforeſaid to the contrary notwithſtanding.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Robinſon*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Robert Smith,*
9 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
10 *Joſeph Work,*
11 *Frederick Watts.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *John Clark,*
4 *Arthur Erwin,*
5 *John Smith,*
6 *Joſeph Thomas,*
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *James Moore,*
9 *Thomas Bull,*
10 *John Hannum,*
11 *Samuel Evans,*
12 *Jonathan Morris,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Henry Miller,*
15 *David M‘Conaughy,*
16 *Michael Schmyſer,*
17 *Philip Gartner,*
18 *Joſeph Lilly,*
19 *Henry Tyſon,*
20 *David M‘Clellan,*
21 *Adam Eichelberger,*
22 *Robert Whitehill,*
23 *John Carothers,*
24 *John Creigh,*
25 *Abraham Lincoln,*
26 *Nicholas Lutz,*
27 *Henry Spyker,*
28 *Philip Kreemer,*
29 *David Davis,*
30 *Baltſer Gehr,*
31 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
32 *Robert Trail,*
33 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
34 *Peter Burkhalter,*
35 *John Piper,*
36 *Frederick Antes,*
37 *Samuel Dale,*
38 *William Todd,*
39 *William Findley,*
40 *John M‘Dowell,*
41 *John Smilie,*
42 *James M‘Calmont,*
43 *Abraham Smith,*
44 *John Rhea,*
45 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
46 *Robert Loller,*
47 *Peter Richards,*
48 *Thomas Rees,*
49 *Adam Orth,*
50 *Robert Clark,*
51 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Trail* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

On motion made by Mr. *Lowrey*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carpenter*,

Reſolved, That this Houſe will on *Friday* next cloſe their preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, *December* 19, 1785. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the ſugar refiners in and near the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the refining of brown ſugar has heretofore been a conſiderable and advantageous manufacture to this city, whereby not only this ſtate hath been ſupplied with loaf ſugar, but large quantities have been furniſhed to the neighbouring ſtates; that the *Britiſh* Parliament, ſome years ago, with deſign to encourage and extend the manufacturing of loaf ſugars in that kingdom, granted a liberal bounty of *twenty-ſix ſhillings* per hundred weight on the exportation of refined ſugars; that under the encouragement thus given to the refining of ſugars in *England*, the manufacturers here are greatly damaged by large importations from thence, and the expenſive buildings and works erected in and near this city for refining of ſugar, unleſs this uſeful branch of manufacture is protected and encouraged, will become unprofitable and uſeleſs; therefore praying that a further duty may be laid on the importation of refined ſugars.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Wheatfield*, *Fairfield* and *Donegal*, in *Ligonier Valley*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, praying that they may be allowed a Truſtee, to repreſent them in the fixing of the place for holding the Courts of Juſtice in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table

The petitions of *Michael Lindemuth* and *William May*, read *December* 10th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Morris*, Mr. *Gehr* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, read *December* 15th, praying that the ſaid city may be incorporated, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the city members, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read *December* 12th, on the petition of *Nathaniel Galt*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill authoriſing the Comptroller General to liquidate the pay accounts of ſuch officer or officers (late of the ſtate navy) who, whilſt in the ſervice of this ſtate, and previous to the derangement in the year 1778, was or were made a priſoner or priſoners of war, and who was or were, ſubſequent to the derangement aforeſaid, honorably diſcharged, or who, being made a priſoner or priſoners as aforeſaid, died during ſuch his or their captivity, and to grant a certificate or certificates for the depreciation thereof to ſuch officer or officers, or to the wife or wives, child or children of ſuch officer or officers, as the caſe may be.

Ordered, That Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *A. Smith*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled

"*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of the townſhip of* Leacock, "*in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 18th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An act to remedy the "defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the "elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh "a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections; and to authoriſe the Juſtices "of the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the Courts of Record of the "ſaid city; and to make further proviſion for the due election and return of "Juſtices of the Peace elect," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 14th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint a* "*Commiſſioner or Commiſſioners to view and open a road from the* Lehigh Water-"Gap, *in the county of* Northampton, *to* Wyoming, *and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate* Jacob Kintzer, *collector of public* "*taxes for the townſhip of* Huntington, *in* York *county*; Jacob Van Foſſen, "*collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Worceſter, *in the county of* Mont-"gomery; James Snodgraſs, *collector of military fines in* New-Britain *townſhip,* "Bucks *county*; *and* Jacob Fautz, *collector of public taxes in* Straſburg *townſhip,* "Lancaſter *county, from the payment of certain ſums of public money of which* "*they were reſpectively robbed,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to em-*"*power the Comptroller General, under certain regulations, to renew the depre-*"*ciation certificates granted by this ſtate, which have been or may be loſt or de-*"*ſtroyed by accident*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, December 20, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the borough and townſhip of *Cheſter*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are greatly ſurpriſed at the application to the Houſe from the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of the ſaid county, for a repeal of the law which ſuſpends the removal of the ſeat of juſtice from the ſaid borough, couched in terms ſo diſreſpectful to, and undeſervedly reflecting on the late honorable Houſe; that they humbly conceive that by the charter granted them (and which they have never forfeited) they have as good a title to the privilege of exemption from attending courts elſewhere, as they have to the lands they have bought and paid for, and that it would be equally as juſt to take from them the one, as to deprive them of the other; that they are far from deſiring that any perſons ſhould continue under any hardſhips, provided they can be relieved without throwing a much greater one on others; they therefore pray, that if the Houſe ſhould be of opinion that the hardſhips the petitioners complain of merit any kind of redreſs, that it may be done by dividing the county, and not by removing the ſeat of juſtice.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Ferguſon*, of the county of *Montgomery*, was read, ſetting forth, that *John Young*, late of the city of *Philadelphia*, has by the juſt authority of the ſtate been attainted of high treaſon; that at the time of his attainder he was ſeized of certain lands and tenements, part of which were confiſcated and ſold; that one tract of land called *Balgowan*, ſituate in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, yet remains unappropriated by the ſtate; that if ſaid land is loſt to the ſaid *John Young*, he hopes ſome compenſation for it from the juſtice of *Britain*, provided the loſs is aſcertained before the Board of Commiſſioners riſe, which they are expected to do ſhortly; he has therefore applied to the petitioner (who is related to him) deſiring to know the pleaſure of the ſtate with reſpect to the ſaid tract of land; whether it is a forfeit by the act of attainder, or ſheltered under the 6th article of the treaty of peace; whether it ſhall deſcend to the ſtate by the laws of mortmain, or be relinquiſhed in favour of the ſaid *John Young*; that theſe are queſtions, which (as the petitioner is told) the Houſe alone can reſolve; ſhe therefore prays, that as ſoon as may be convenient the premiſes may be taken into conſideration, and that the ſaid eſtate may be confirmed to the ſaid *John Young*, or declared a forfeiture.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that the late Houſe of Aſſembly appointed a committee on the meſſage of the Preſident and Council of the 16th *December* laſt, which had reſpect to certain ſervices of his, rendered to this and other of the United States during the late war; that on the report of the committee, *March* 17th, 1785, the Houſe came to the following reſolution, *viz.*

"*Reſolved*, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to empower the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *five hundred pounds*, in favour of *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, as a *temporary* recompence for the eminent ſervices rendered to *America*, during the late revolution, by the ſaid *Thomas Paine*, until the United States in Congreſs aſſembled may adopt a fœderal plan for a ſuitable reward therefor;" which bill was paſſed into a law, to which he refers; that on a motion in the late Houſe, to authoriſe the delegates of the ſtate to bring in a motion in Congreſs conformable to the intention of the Houſe, the Honorable Mr. *Pettit*, being then a member, and preſent, took charge of the buſineſs as the ſenſe of the Houſe, and, together with Mr. *Wilſon*, brought on the matter in Congreſs; that the committee appointed on this affair does not now exiſt; and as there are certain matters in the progreſs of it ſince that time which materially affect him, therefore requeſts the Houſe to appoint a committee, to whom he may communicate the matters alluded to.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Packer*, of *Uwchland* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that he ſupplied General *Waſhington*'s army in the years 1777 and 1778 with a quantity of leather, for which he has never been paid; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 14th, for the purpoſe, reported an act, entituled "*An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon "*college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate,* "*and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate, as a* "*fund*

" *fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the* 44*th ſection of the* " *Conſtitution of this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until eleven o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *December* 21, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, ſimilar to that read *December* 2d, relative to the payment of lands located previous to the war, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made by Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *Orth*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the aforeſaid report.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 19th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of ſuch officers, late of the ſtate navy, as were* " *made priſoners of war previous to the derangement in the year* 1778, *and were* " *afterwards honorably diſcharged, or who died during their captivity*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the market-houſe in* High-ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* " Fourth-ſtreet *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to* " *time, weſtwardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as* " *the Wardens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes there-* " *in mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *December* 22, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying the courts of juſtice may not be removed from *Newtown*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Miniſter and members of the Baptiſt Church in *New-Britain* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, praying the ſaid congregation may be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Report of the committee on ways and means was read the ſecond time.

It was then moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

That the Houſe reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of taking into conſideration the ſaid Report.

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon, by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Carpenter*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *Anthony Wayne,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Thomas Bull,*
12 *John Hannum,*
13 *Robert Smith,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Jonathan Morris,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
19 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *Henry Miller,*
22 *David M'Conaughy,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *Philip Gartner,*
25 *Joſeph Lilly,*
26 *Henry Tyſon,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Frederick Watts.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *George Clymer,*
3 *John Clark,*
4 *Arthur Erwin,*
5 *John Smith,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Abraham Lincoln,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Henry Spyker,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Baltſer Gehr,*
14 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
16 *Peter Burkhalter,*
17 *Robert Brown,*
18 *John Piper,*
19 *Frederick Antes,*
20 *Samuel Dale,*
21 *William Todd,*
22 *William Findley,*
23 *John M'Dowell,*
24 *John Smilie,*
25 *James M'Calmont,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *John Rhea,*
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
29 *Robert Loller,*
30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *David Krouſe,*
34 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

On motion made by Mr. *Hannum*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*, *Ordered*, That the further conſideration of the ſaid Report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the Report of the Committee on Ways and Means, poſtponed this forenoon, *viz.*

THE Committee on Ways and Means beg leave to report,——That from the papers referred to them, it appears that the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their act of the 27th of September, 1785, have required the ſum of three millions of dollars, to be paid by the ſaid ſtates on or before the 1ſt day of May, 1786, and have aſſigned to them ſeverally their reſpective quotas thereof. Theſe quotas not being apportioned according to the rule of the confederation, are to be reviſed and equalized, when Congreſs ſhall be poſſeſſed of ſufficient documents for the purpoſe.

That the amount ſo called for is appropriated to the ſupport of the fœderal government and the diſcharge of the intereſt due on the foreign loans to the end of the year 1785, and to diſcharge the intereſt of the domeſtic debt till the end of the year 1784; which, with the aid of a part of the Dutch loan not otherwiſe appropriated, and the arrears due on former exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, will be ſufficient for the aforeſaid purpoſes, according to the eſtimations contained in the ſaid reſolutions.

That it is of vaſt importance to the preſent reputation, and future ſecurity of theſe ſtates, fully and ſpeedily to adopt the ſaid requiſitions. Wherefore your committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That this ſtate do make proviſion for diſcharging four hundred and ten thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-eight dollars, being the quota of Pennſylvania in the requiſition of the United States of September 27th, 1785; and that a bill be brought in for that purpoſe.

The Committee beg leave further to report,——That a punctual diſcharge of the contracts and obligations of the ſtate; a ſtrict adherence to the juſt fulfilment of their promiſes; a due attention to the creditors of Pennſylvania, and the citizens of this ſtate who are creditors of the United States; and the proviſion of ſufficient funds for relieving their paſt, removing their preſent, and preventing their future diſtreſſes;—are objects of high import to the dignity, peace and happineſs of the commonwealth, both now and hereafter; and that humanity, juſtice, honor, and the intereſt of the ſtate, call aloud for the attention of the legiſlature to ſo important a ſubject.

Under a ſenſe of this, your Committee have directed their enquiries to find out, and to ſtate, the debts that are due; the promiſes and obligations of the ſtate heretofore entered into, which ought to be inviolably preſerved and fulfilled, and without which it is in vain to expect confidence and reliance on future engagements.

They have alſo inveſtigated the revenues and reſources of the commonwealth, and the proviſion neceſſary and proper to be made for diſcharging the public debt.

I. IN the years 1775 and 1776, an emiſſion of bills of credit, commonly called *reſolve money*, was iſſued by the ſtate. The amount, - -				£ 200,000 0 0
Of this there hath been paid into the treaſury, and there burnt and deſtroyed, at different times, - - -	44,936	16	6	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be burnt, -	33,706	11	1	
So that there is due by the ſtate, which remains to be redeemed, thereof, - - -	121,356	12	5	
				£ 200,000 0 0

II. BY a law paſſed 20th March, 1777, £ 200,000 in bills of credit were directed to be ſtruck; all of which were iſſued, - -				£ 200,000 0 0
Of this there hath been paid into the treaſury, and there burnt and deſtroyed, - -	54,941	16	6	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be burnt, -	36,209	6	1	
Which leaves a balance due by the ſtate, to be redeemed, of	108,848	17	5	
				£ 200,000 0 0

The bills which compoſe the two foregoing balances, to be redeemed by the ſtate, have long ſince ceaſed to paſs as a circulating medium. The rate of exchange, or relative value between them and the bills of credit emitted per act paſſed 7th April, 1781, was declared by the authority of the ſtate, for the laſt time, in the month of May, 1781, to be as 175 of the former for one of the latter. At this rate conſiderable ſums have been exchanged at the treaſury, according to a reſolution of aſſembly paſſed 13th June, 1781, which continues to operate.

By an act of Aſſembly paſſed 13th April, 1782, the ſaid bills are, together with other bills therein mentioned, made receivable in the payment of arrearages of the continental money taxes. By continuing theſe means, the whole thereof may be redeemed.

III. THE quota of Pennſylvania, in the requiſitions of Congreſs for ſinking the continental bills of credit, was - - -		*Dol.* 29,900,000
Of which there hath been paid to the continental loan-officer by the treaſurer of the ſtate, - - - -	28,140,953	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be paid as above, -	269,200	
Balance due, to be paid to the United States, - -	1,489,847	
		Dol. 29,900,000

The value of the *continental bills of credit* is ſimilar to that of the *reſolve* and *commonwealth money* before mentioned. They are alſo made receivable in payment of the arrears of taxes due in continental money per act paſſed 13th April, 1782, and may be exchanged at the treaſury, according to reſolution of Aſſembly of 13th June, 1781, for ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, at the rate of 175; and conſiderable ſums have been and continue to be ſo exchanged.

Payment of the arrearages of the continental money taxes ſhould be compelled, which, together with that received by exchange, will bring into the treaſury a ſum of ſaid bills more than ſufficient to diſcharge the aforeſaid balance, in which, and in the *reſolve* and *commonwealth money* aforeſaid, payment will be preferred, in as much as thoſe arrearages not paid in the ſaid bills muſt be diſcharged in what is more valuable, viz. in ſtate money, or in ſpecie at 75 for one, according to law paſſed 13th April, 1782.

Whatever ſum of the continental money may be paid in taxes, beyond the balance aforeſaid due to the United States, will remain in the treaſury, and obtain for the ſtate a credit at ſettlement with the United States for the value thereof, at whatſoever exchange Congreſs may fix upon continental bills of credit.

The ſums of ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, which may be neceſſary for exchanging at the treaſury the *reſolve*, *commonwealth* and *continental money*, may be obtained out of the payments of the continental money taxes, in that ſpecies of money, agreeably to act paſſed 13th April, 1782, and ſo much thereof as may be neceſſary ſhould be appropriated to that purpoſe. The operation of the taxes will probably prevent much from being exchanged in that way, the difference of the value in favour of thoſe who pay it in taxes is as 75 to 175 for one.

IV. AGREEABLY to act of 25th of March, 1780, there was emitted and iſſued in bills of credit, dated 29th April, 1780, bearing intereſt at 5 per cent. -		£ 100,000 0 0
Of this there hath been redeemed, burnt and deſtroyed,	£ 98,375 0 0	
There is now in the treaſury, - - - -	521 5 0	
Leaves a balance to be exchanged for ſpecie of - -	1,103 15 0	
		£ 100,000 0 0

The monies ariſing from ſales of city lots will be amply ſufficient to redeem the above balance. The bills were due, both principal and intereſt, on the firſt day of June, 1784, ſhortly after which the treaſurer of the ſtate, by public notice, called upon all the poſſeſſors of ſaid bills to apply and receive payment; and accordingly hath paid and yet continues to diſcharge the principal and intereſt to applicants who poſſeſs thoſe bills.

V. BY act of June 1ſt, 1780, in conformity to a reſolution of Congreſs of the 18th of March preceding, there was emitted on the faith of this ſtate in bills of credit, bearing intereſt at five per cent. per annum, which was guaranteed by the United States in caſe of the inability of the ſtate by the event of war, -		*Dol.* 1,495,000
Of this there is now in the treaſury of the ſtate, - -	944,190	
In the continental loan-office, to be paid when the balance due by Pennſylvania on the ſinking fund ſhall be diſcharged, -	51,200	
In ſaid loan-office, which is due to Pennſylvania, for a like ſum paid by this ſtate in bills of April 7th, 1781, and ſubſtituted in lieu of the other, - - - - -	390,000	
Balance yet in circulation, of which a part (ſay 1-8th) is ſtamped, "*one year's intereſt paid*," and the reſidue is on intereſt at five per cent. from the firſt of June, 1780, - - -	109,610	
		Dol. 1,495,000

The faith of the commonwealth is pledged, that the holder ſhall be entitled to receive the principal and intereſt from the ſtate in ſpecie; and they will be due on the 31ſt December, 1786.

The poſſeſſors are now entitled to have the intereſt paid them at the ſtate treaſury *thus:* they give up the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, and receive in exchange therefor, a ſum in the bills of April 7th, 1781, equal to the amount of the principal of the bills delivered, and the intereſt then due thereupon.

The bills are receivable alſo in payment of the arrears of ſtate-money taxes, but as the bills of April 7th, 1781, are likewiſe received therein, and are not ſo ſoon due as the former, payment in the latter will be preferred, being more attainable. Wherefore it will be neceſſary, in order to preſerve the faith of the ſtate, to provide and appropriate a ſum for redeeming in ſpecie, when due, the the principal and intereſt of ſuch of the foregoing bills as ſhall not be taken up by the preceding means, for which purpoſe there will be neceſſary about 40,000 *l.* to be appropriated out of the 150,000 *l.* loan-office.

VI. BY an act of aſſembly, paſſed April 7th, 1781, it was directed that 500,000 *l.* ſhould be emitted in bills of credit.	
Of which there was ſtruck, - - - - -	£ 486,500 0 0

The ſum of 146,250*l.* of this was ſubſtituted in the room of an equal ſum of the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, and paid to the continental loan-officer, to be ſubject to the draughts of the United States, being the balance of the four-tenths of the one twentieth part of the ſinking fund requiſition.

Of ſaid 146,250*l.* a part, viz. *l.* 32,429 15 7 yet remains in the continental loan-office aforeſaid not iſſued. Your Committee beg leave to recommend that application be made to Congreſs, by the delegates of this ſtate, for an order upon the loan-officer aforeſaid, that the ſaid *l.* 32,429 15 7 be paid into the treaſury of this ſtate. And in order to manifeſt the juſtice of Pennſylvania, by agreeing to account for her own bills of credit as for ſpecie, that ſhe be debited with the ſame at par in account current with the United States; and as ſaid bills are uſeleſs to them, there is no doubt but that this will be agreed to.

The whole ſum emitted as aforeſaid,		£ 486,500 0 0
Of which there hath been redeemed and burnt,	£ 145,400 0 0	
Yet in the continental loan-office, to be redeemed as above,	32,429 15 7	
In the ſtate treaſury,	236,407 7 7	
Yet in circulation, to be redeemed,	72,262 16 10	
		£ 486,500 0 0

That the balances due on all the ſtate-money taxes ſhall remain appropriated to the redemption of the ſaid bills, and that from and after the tenth day of April, which will be in the year of our Lord 1788, the poſſeſſors of all ſuch bills of the emiſſion aforeſaid, as ſhall then remain unredeemed, ſhall be entitled to receive the full amount thereof in ſpecie at the treaſury, and ſo much of the ſtate money taxes as ſhall be diſcharged in ſpecie, ſhall be applied to ſaid purpoſe.

And whereas by an act paſſed the 19th day of December, 1780, it was directed that the ſum of *l.* 93,640 10 0 ſhould be annually raiſed, levied and paid, for ſix ſucceeding years, in the bills of credit of June 1ſt, 1780, and (by an act paſſed January 31ſt, 1783) in the emiſſion of April 7th, 1781, for the purpoſe of redeeming the ſaid bills. And whereas the redemption of the ſaid bills is fully provided for by the taxes heretofore laid, and the other means already provided; therefore your committee report, that a bill be prepared for repealing ſuch parts of the aforeſaid act of December 19th, 1780, as relate to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to be laid.

VII. IN purſuance of an act paſſed the 21ſt of March, 1783, there were intereſt notes prepared and iſſued, to the amount of - - - - - *Dol.* 166,571 45-90

Of this there hath been redeemed and burnt,	146,555	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be burnt,	14,405 3-4	
Balance yet to be redeemed,	5,610 3-4	
		Dol. 166,571 45-90

Note, The ſum directed to be printed in theſe notes was,		*Dol.* 300,000
From which take the ſum iſſued,	166,571 45-90	
And there remains in the treaſury to be deſtroyed, which was not counterſigned or perfected,	133,428 45-90	
		Dol. 300,000

Agreeably to the law, the foregoing ſum of 5,610 3-4 dollars, equal to *l.* 2,103 16 10, in intereſt notes, was due the firſt of July, 1784, and ſince that period the holders have had it in their power to be paid in ſpecie at the treaſury, or to pay it as coin in diſcharge of taxes due in ſpecie; the ſame proviſion ought to be continued, wherefore the ſum of *l.* 2,103 16 10 aforeſaid, of the arrears of taxes due in ſpecie, and laid in the year 1783, is now ſubject to ſaid appropriation.

Order ſhould be taken that the above notes, and all the preceding bills of credit of this ſtate in the treaſury, of every denomination, ſtruck before the year 1785, ſhould be burned and deſtroyed, *except a ſum of that part of the bills of April 7th*, 1781, *ſufficient to anſwer the payments charged thereon*, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill directing all perſons poſſeſſed or that may be poſſeſſed of the bills of credit of this ſtate aforeſaid, emitted before the year 1785, to bring in the ſame for redemption and payment according to the manner herein before preſcribed, on or before the following periods, viz. thoſe bills thereof emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, commonly called *reſolve* and *commonwealth money*, by the firſt day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord 1789, and the *emiſſions* of April 29th, 1780, June 1ſt, 1780, April 7th, 1781, together with the *intereſt notes* of March 21ſt, 1783, by the 1ſt day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord 1792, and that all bills of the emiſſions aforeſaid not then brought in for payment ſhall be for ever irredeemable.

VIII. BY an act paſſed 16th March, 1785, it was directed that bills of credit ſhould be emitted to the amount of - - - -	£ 150,000 0 0

The faith of the ſtate hath been pledged for the reception of theſe bills in all public dues, and for their final redemption at certain periods, and the credit and intereſt of the commonwealth are at ſtake, for the ſacred fulfilment thereof.

By the ſaid act it is directed that the ſum of 20,000*l.* ſhall be cancelled in the year 1786, and a like ſum of the ſaid bills in every ſucceeding year, until the whole ſhall be deſtroyed, wherefore that ſum annually muſt be reſerved out of the taxes, impoſts, and other dues appropriated for that purpoſe until the end of the year 1792, and in the next enſuing year, which will be that of our Lord 1793, the ſum of 10,000*l.* ſhall be thus reſerved, to complete the redemption of the whole ſum emitted.

Although the above is a debt to be provided for, yet the bills of credit form alſo a preſent revenue, and paſſing as a circulating medium and enlarging the funds, releaſes the commonwealth at once from ſo much more of her debts, operating in her favor to the full amount of the annual intereſt of the bills of credit thus in circulation.

IX. BY acts of April 1ſt, 1784, and March 30th, 1785, proviſion is made for iſſuing certificates bearing intereſt from the 1ſt of July, 1783, for all debts againſt the ſtate, the depreciation debt which is otherwiſe provided for, excepted.

Certificates have been accordingly iſſued to amount of -	93,155 6 11	
Whereof there hath heen redeemed by the ſale of the lands of this ſtate to the 1ſt of November, 1785, excluſive of intereſt thereon,	17,616 11 5	
		75,538 15 6
There are debts due on accounts yet unſettled, for which certificates as aforeſaid remain to be iſſued; theſe, according to the beſt eſtimation that can at preſent be made thereof, will (including the claims againſt forfeited eſtates) amount to	133,679 12 $2\frac{1}{4}$	
Of this will be diſcharged by militia fines incurred, appropriated to pay militia ſervices, - - -	31,500 0 0	
		102,179 12 $2\frac{3}{4}$
Amount, -		£ 177,718 7 $8\frac{3}{4}$

In the act paſſed March 16th, 1785, it is provided that the yearly intereſt on the certificates for the above debt ſhall be paid out of the taxes and impoſt duties, and proviſion is therein alſo made for diſcharging the arrears due. The operations of this law have commenced, and the ſecond year's intereſt due the 1ſt of July, 1785, is now paying agreeably thereunto. At the ſame time the land-office operates as a certain and productive fund for diſcharging the principal, and the intereſt payable is thereby annually leſſened.

Both of theſe means ſhould be continued for two important reaſons: 1ſt, Becauſe they are uſeful, good and juſt in themſelves; 2dly, Becauſe they cannot be relinquiſhed without committing a breach of public faith.

And in order more effectually to relieve theſe creditors, your committee propoſe, that in future the intereſt be paid half yearly at the treaſury, in the ſame manner and under the ſame regulations, as are provided in and by the aforeſaid act of the 16*th of March*, 1785, *and that a bill be brought in for enabling the poſſeſſors of all ſuch certificates as aforeſaid to receive the intereſt thereof, at the end of every ſix months, as the ſame becomes due.*

The annual intereſt of *l.* 177,718 7 $8\frac{3}{4}$ is - -	£ 10,663 2 0
Together with which the intereſt due till the 1ſt of January, 1786, thereon, amounts to about - - - -	16,492 13 7
	£. 27,155 15 7
Your committee are of opinion, therefore, that this ſum of the monies ariſing from the duties on imports, ſhould be appropriated to the payment of the intereſt aforeſaid, until the 1ſt of January, 1786,	27,155 16 7

And that the ſum of 10,600*l.* of the monies ariſing from ſaid duties and taxes, annually afterwards be appropriated to diſcharge the intereſt accruing, until the redemption of the principal.

The ſum ſo appropriated will be more than ſufficient; and the exceſs thereof, on account of the redemption of the certificates in the land-office, will be every year increaſing; ſuch exceſs therefore ſhould be appropriated to other exigencies of government, and to ſinking the principal of the debt.

X. BY ſundry laws, paſſed the 18th December, 1780, April 10th, 1781, October 1ſt, 1781, April 13th, 1782, April 8th and September 22d, 1785, the depreciation of the pay of the Pennſylvania line, ſtate navy and military hoſpital, from the 1ſt of January, 1777, till 1ſt Auguſt, 1780, hath been directed to be ſettled, and certificates iſſued therefor, bearing intereſt from the 10th of April, 1781.

The amount of theſe accounts ſettled is - - -				£ 549,706	6	7
Of which there hath been paid in ſtate money, being on account of the one third part payable according to law, -	£ 141,408	7	4			
Redeemed by the ſales of forfeited eſtates, excluſive of the intereſt,	45,994	6	5			
Redeemed by the land-office from the 1ſt July, 1734, till the 1ſt of November, 1785, - -	37,145	17	7½			
Yet to be redeemed, ſave what have been received in the land-office ſince the 1ſt November, 1785, - -	325,157	15	2½			
				549,706	6	7
Balance,				325,157	15	2½
To this balance are to be added ſundry accounts yet unſettled, which, by eſtimation, will amount to - - - - -				77,878	14	11
Amount,				£ 403,036	10	1½

According to an act paſſed the 21ſt day of March, 1783, the original poſſeſſors of the above certificates, provided no alienation thereof had ever been made, (the ſame to be aſcertained by certain forms) were entitled to receive at the treaſury, on the 10th of April following, one year's intereſt thereon, and one year's intereſt on the 10th day of April in every ſucceeding year; and by a ſupplement paſſed the 20th day of September, 1783, the ſame was extended to the aſſignees or poſſeſſors of all ſuch certificates as had or ſhould have one year's intereſt previouſly paid to the original owner. The revenue ariſing from the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors, or ſo much thereof as ſhould be neceſſary, was thereby appropriated as a fund for ſaid purpoſes. And, by a clauſe in the law paſſed March 16th, 1785, the whole of the exciſe aforeſaid is appropriated for diſcharging as well the arrears due, as the intereſt annually accruing.

The amount unalienated, upon which one year's intereſt hath been paid as aforeſaid, - - - - -	£ 210,626	17	8			
The unalienated part of the accounts not ſettled may be eſtimated at 2-3ds thereof, ſay - - -	51,919	3	4			
The principal ſum, upon which the intereſt is payable, - -				£ 262,546	1	0
The intereſt due and to become due thereon till 10th of April, 1786, viz.						
Five years intereſt upon *l.* 51,919 3 4 from the 10th of April 1781, till 10th of April aforeſaid, - -	15,575	10	0			
Two years intereſt upon *l.* 210,626 17 8 from the 10th of April 1784, till 10th of April aforeſaid, - -	25,275	4	6			
				40,850	14	6
Deduct one year's intereſt payable according to law, out of the exciſe, on the 10th of April next, - - - - - -				15,752	15	3
And the reſidue is - - - - -				£ 25,097	19	3

The exciſe will not produce more than 15,000*l.* per annum, and is of itſelf (as hath been proved by experience) rather inſufficient to the diſcharge of the intereſt annually accruing; however, by anticipating a part of the appropriation herein after mentioned for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt aforeſaid, which part will not be immediately neceſſary for the purpoſes to which it is appropriated, becauſe many do not apply for their intereſt until long after it is due, the exciſe may cover the ſaid annual intereſt, until the principal ſhall be reduced ſo as to make it more than amply ſufficient; wherefore your committee propoſe, that the aforeſaid ſum of *l.* 25,097 19 3 ſhould be appropriated out of the duties on imports due before the 1ſt November, 1784, for the purpoſe of diſcharging the arrearages aforeſaid, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe, and for paying off, from and after the 10th of April next, the year's intereſt which is due upon the depreciation certificates, whereon intereſt was annually heretofore payable according to law, from the 10th of April, 1784, till the 10th of April, 1785, and that proviſion be alſo made therein for paying, in half yearly payments, the intereſt upon the ſaid certificates, from and after the 10th day of April, and from and after the 10th day of October in every ſucceeding year, until the principal ſhall be finally redeemed.

Having thus taken a review of the proviſion that hath been made for paying the intereſt, and propoſed ſuch aids as appear proper; we have turned our attention to the redemption and final diſcharge of the principal, as well as the intereſt of the depreciation debt.

The means at preſent in operation are,

1ſt. The land-office; where they are receivable, principal and intereſt, alienated and unalienated, agreeably to law paſſed April 1ſt, 1784, and in common with certain other public ſecurities, in the purchaſe of lands ſold by the ſtate. By this means there hath been redeemed between July 1ſt, 1784, and November 1ſt, 1785, *l.* 37 145 17 7¼ principal, and *l.* 8,447 7 2½ intereſt. This forms a very reſpectable ſinking fund, and although it is uncertain how productive it may be in future, in this kind eſpecially, yet, conſidering that the land-office was not opened until 1ſt May, 1785, for the ſale of lands within the late Indian purchaſe, it may be computed to bring in 28,000*l.* per annum in ſaid certificates.

2d. By act of 18th December, 1780, all the forfeited eſtates, not before ſold or appropriated, were then appropriated as a fund for redeeming the depreciation certificates. In this way there hath been *l.* 45,994 6 5 principal, and *l.* 1,304 8 6 intereſt, redeemed and cancelled. There remains yet forfeited property to a conſiderable amount, which according to law ought to be forthwith ſold for the purpoſes to which they are appropriated.

That tract of country lying on the waters of the Ohio and Allegheny rivers, deſcribed in an act of aſſembly paſſed 12th March, 1783, which is thereby appropriated and directed to be ſurveyed and ſold; in payment whereof depreciation certificates and ſpecie, or the bills of credit, of the laſt emiſſion alone, are by law receivable.

In addition to the above, the following property, we apprehend, ſhould be immediately ſold, under the direction of the Supreme Executive Council, for the redemption of ſaid certificates, viz. the manſion-houſe and lots contiguous thereto in the city of Philadelphia, late the eſtate of Joſeph Galloway, forfeited to the commonwealth, and appropriated by act paſſed the 18th March, 1779, and to be applied to the uſe of the preſident of this ſtate for the time being, or to ſuch other uſes as the General Aſſembly ſhould thereafter direct and appoint. The committee of Ways and Means of a former Aſſembly reported, "That a committee ſhould be appointed to bring in a bill, enabling the Supreme Executive Council to ſell the ſaid houſe and lots;" which report was adopted on the 15th of September, 1784, but no law hath yet been paſſed to this end: Wherefore, your committee beg leave to propoſe, that a bill be brought in for the purpoſes of ſelling the meſſuages, tenements and lots aforeſaid, and that depreciation and the funded certificates, with the intereſt thereon, and ſpecie, or the bills of credit of this ſtate (of the laſt emiſſion only) be receivable in payment.

Agreeably to act paſſed 10th April, 1781, the unappropriated city lots were directed to be ſold for the redemption of the bills of credit of April 29th, 1780. There is in the treaſury a balance of above 500*l.* on account of the monies received for ſales aforeſaid, and there are ſeveral purchaſers who have not yet fully paid, which will produce a ſufficient ſum for diſcharging the aforeſaid appropriation. There will afterwards remain a conſiderable number of thoſe lots the property of the ſtate, which have reverted by the non-payment of the purchaſers and other cauſes. Your committee alſo propoſe, that a bill be brought in, directing that theſe lots which yet remain the property of the ſtate be ſold, and that depreciation and the funded certificates, with the intereſt thereon, and ſpecie, or the bills of credit of this ſtate, of the laſt emiſſion only, be receivable in payment.

XI. THE grant to the late proprietaries of Pennſylvania, by act paſſed November 27th, 1779, 130,000*l.* ſterling money of Great-Britain, equal in Pennſylvania currency to - - - - - - - - £ 216,666 13 4

It was ſtipulated on the part of this ſtate, that this ſum ſhall be paid by annual inſtalments of not leſs than 15,000*l.* nor more than 20,000*l.* ſterling, and that the firſt payment ſhould be made within one year after the termination of the late war with Great-Britain.

By an act paſſed February 9th, 1785, the ſum of 15,000*l.* ſterling, was directed to be paid in Engliſh guineas at 21*ſ.* and Spaniſh milled dollars at 4/6 each, equal in Pennſylvania currency to	£ 25,000 0 0	
The intereſt from September 3d, 1784, the time payment ſhould have been made thereof, until the 1ſt May, 1785, being 10 days after the laſt publication of the offer of payment by Council; from which time according to the ſaid act all intereſt thereon ceaſes,	991 13 4	
		25,991 13 4
The ſecond annual payment was alſo due on the third of September laſt, which, according to act paſſed March 16th, 1785, was directed to be paid as above,		25,000 0 0
		£ 50,991 13 4

The

The funds provided for the diſcharge of the two firſt articles, are the monies ariſing from the ſale of the barracks, which amount to	£ 8,347 19 0	
Excluſive of a part yet unſold, 22 lots which may produce about 2,500*l.* but ſay,	2,000 0 0	
The reſidue to be taken from the impoſt duties due before November 1ſt, 1784,	15,643 14 4	
		£ 25,991 13 4
The third article, according to act paſſed 16th March, 1785, is to be paid out of the taxes and impoſts,		25,000 0 0
		£ 50,991 13 4

There remains 100,000*l.* ſterling, not yet become due, equal to	£ 166,666 13 4
It is propoſed that the ſame ſhall be divided into yearly payments of 15,000*l.* equal to 25,000*l.* Pennſylvania currency, each, the firſt to become due on the 3d of September, 1786, and to continue for 6 2-3 years. The funds out of which payment ſhall be made have been already aſſigned per act paſſed March 16, 1785, wherefore there is mortgaged, of the monies ariſing from taxes and impoſts, the ſum of 25,000*l.* annually for 6 2-3 years, will amount to	£ 166,666 13 4

XII. THE debt due on the requiſitions of the United States for fœderal ſupplies.

The quotas of Pennſylvania, in the exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, are

	Payable in facilities, &c. *Dollars.*	*Specie.* *Dollars.*
1. The 1,200,000 dollars called for by act of September, 1782,	180,000	
2. The 4,000,000 dollars called for by acts of October, 1781, and April, 1784,	140,099	420,298
3. The 3,000,000 dollars called for by act of September, 1785, herein before adopted,	273,585	136,793
	593,684	557,091
There have been ſundry payments made on account thereof from March, 1782, till 16th Nov. 1785, including 166,571 50-90ths dollars paid by the loan-officer for one year's intereſt on certificates of debts due by the United States, according to act of March 21ſt, 1783, and including 248,446 85-90ths dollars paid till 16th November, 1785, according to the act of 16th March, 1785	415,018 45-90	490,647 45-90
Balance to be diſcharged before the 1ſt of May, 1786,	178,665 45-90	66,443 45-90
	593,684	557,091

The aforeſaid balance of 178,665 45-90ths dollars, payable in facilities, or to be diſcharged by payment of intereſt on the certified debts of the United States till 1ſt January, 1786, is equal to		£ 66,999 11 3
Whereof there will be diſcharged by the payment of intereſt on the certified debts of the United States till the 1ſt of January, 1786, taking into the account the payments which have been made ſince the 16th November laſt, as well as the further payments to be made before the ſaid 1ſt of January, 1786, after which the proviſion in the act of March 16th, 1785, ſo far as relates to payment of the intereſt of debts due by the United States, ceaſes,	£ 8,800 0 0	
The intereſt till the 1ſt of January, 1785, will be receivable by this ſtate from the United States in facilities, agreeably to reſolutions of Congreſs, upon the certificates received in the land-office. The amount of the intereſt allowed in the land-office thereon till the 1ſt of November laſt, is *l.* 32,016 19 7¼, but the intereſt is therein contained until the time of payment into the ſaid land-office; therefore taking the intereſt upon thoſe received before ſaid 1ſt of January, 1785, and deducting it from the intereſt allowed at the land-office, upon certificates received after that period, it will leave about, - - - - -	25,191 7 2	
Balance, -	33,008 4 1	
		£ 66,999 11 3

The intereſt which will be receivable by the ſtate in facilities, upon the quartermaſter and commiſſaries certificates collected in taxes, when the ſame ſhall be liquidated by the continental commiſſioner, together with the intereſt upon the certificates of debts due by the United States, which have been received in the land-office ſince the 1ſt of November laſt, and which will be ſo received before the 1ſt of May, 1786, will be more than ſufficient to diſcharge the balance aforeſaid.

The aforeſaid balance due in ſpecie is 66,443 45-90ths dollars, equal to - - -		£ 24,916 6 3
The whole of this muſt be paid out of the taxes received before the 1ſt of May next. As the penſioners diſabled in the ſervice are to be paid thereout, it will be neceſſary to apply a part thereof to that uſe; for which purpoſe, including the payments made ſince 16th November, 1785, there may be neceſſary -	£ 10,300 0 0	
The reſidue to be paid out of the taxes now in the treaſury, or firſt received, - - -	14,616 6 3	
		24,916 6 3

Should the ſum of 10,300*l.* reſerved as above, be more than ſufficient, the overplus to be paid to the receiver of continental taxes on the 1ſt of May next.

XIII. THUS the foregoing balances due to the United States may readily be diſcharged. But there is ſomething more that claims the attention of Pennſylvania.

According to the eſtimation of Congreſs, the ſum of 4,834,279 16-90ths dollars, will be neceſſary to diſcharge the intereſt on the domeſtic debt of the United States till the end of the year 1784; and by the reſolutions of Congreſs of the 27th of September, 1785, facilities or intereſt certificates are directed to be iſſued for the intereſt due until the 1ſt of January, 1785, conſequently facilities will be iſſued nearly to the amount aforeſaid.

Although this ſtate hath diſcharged the intereſt of the debts of the United States, nearly to the amount of the quota of Pennſylvania, in the ſum requiſite to diſcharge the intereſt of the whole domeſtic debt to the ſaid period; and, although this ſtate hath by the land-office redeemed above 220,000*l.* of the principal of the domeſtic debt due by the United States to the citizens of Pennſylvania, and yet continues to redeem the ſame by the means aforeſaid; nevertheleſs there remains a large portion of the whole of ſaid debt yet due to the citizens of Pennſylvania, and there are large arrears of intereſt yet unpaid upon the principal ſums ſo due to them—This demonſtrates the delinquency of ſome of the other ſtates; a delinquency which ought not to be permitted, for (unleſs meaſures be taken to prevent it) they would even profit by ſuch delinquency, and the creditors of Pennſylvania ſuffer on account of their faithful and ſtrenuous exertions. The great quantity of facilities which would be paid to the citizens of Pennſylvania would cauſe them to depreciate, notwithſtanding the proviſion made by Congreſs to prevent it; ſo that the creditors in Pennſylvania would not have the value intended them, and to which they are juſtly entitled—And this depreciation would enable citizens of other ſtates to procure them in this ſtate at a diſcount, and ſo to pay off their proportion of the continental requiſitions with certificates obtained at leſs than ſpecie value. For remedy whereof it is propoſed,

That the poſſeſſors of all certificates of debts due by the United States to citizens of this ſtate, the intereſt of which were made payable at the continental loan-office by the act of March 16th, 1785, ſhall have it at their option to receive from the comptroller general of the ſtate a certificate for a like ſum in lieu thereof, bearing intereſt from the ſame date; and that the faith of the ſtate be pledged for the redemption of all ſuch certificates ſo iſſued.

And that ſuch loan office certificates, entitled as aforeſaid, as have been granted for continental money, ſhall be ſettled and liquidated in ſpecie by the ſaid comptroller general, agreeably to the ſcale provided for that purpoſe by act of Congreſs of the 28th of June, 1780.

And whereas, according to the ſaid act of Congreſs, the poſſeſſors of certificates for money loaned before the 1ſt day of March, 1778, are entitled to an intereſt of ſix per cent. per annum in ſpecie upon the nominal ſum expreſſed in the certificates, until the final redemption of the principal; that the ſaid comptroller general ſhall alſo certify ſaid nominal ſum on the back of every certificate iſſued by him for loan-office certificates of the aforeſaid deſcription; to the end that the ſaid poſſeſſors may receive the ſame juſtice from this ſtate as hath been promiſed them by the United States.

From the continental loan-officer's account, it appears that he hath paid intereſt for one year to amount of 248,446 85-90ths dollars, between the 16th March and 16th November, 1785, but as many claims are not yet ſettled and certified, and others, although ſettled, may not yet have been preſented for payment of the intereſt; and as on the other hand, the land office daily operates to leſſen the demands upon this fund, ſuppoſe the annual intereſt upon the continental debt provided for by act of 16th March, 1785, to amount to 256,666 2-3 dollars, the capital or principal at ſix per cent. will be - - £ 1,604,166 13 4

Whereof there hath been paid into the land-office to the 1ſt November, 1785, 72,500 0 0

Capital, the intereſt of which is to be provided for, but the principal to be redeemed will not amount to ſo much in ſpecie, becauſe all the loan-office certificates iſſued from September, 1777, till March, 1778, are herein reckoned as ſpecie, - - - - - £ 1,531,666 13 4

The annual intereſt, - - - - - 91,900 0 0

Intereſt and arrears of intereſt till the 1ſt of January, 1786, allowing that upon an average the intereſt is due from January, 1782, upon the above, £ 367,600 0 0

That the ſaid arrears of intereſt be paid into the treaſury out of the taxes due before the 1ſt of January, 1786. And the intereſt afterwards be payable in half yearly payments at the ſaid treaſury, as the ſame ſhall become due; and that to anſwer this purpoſe, the ſum of 91,900*l.* annually be appropriated out of the monies ariſing from taxes and import duties.

Provided alſo, that the arrearages due till the 1ſt of January, 1786, upon the certificates ſo aſſumed by this ſtate, ſhall be paid to the holders reſpectively at the treaſury of this ſtate, in the ſame manner as by act aforeſaid of 16th March, 1785, was directed for paying the arrears of intereſt of the certificates of debts of the United States by the continental loan-officer in this ſtate.

That the ſaid certificates ſhall be receivable at the land-office in payment for lands, in the ſame manner as certificates of this ſtate iſſued per act of April 1ſt, 1784, are by law receivable.

Your committee beg leave to report, that a bill be brought in for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

The PAY and EXPENCES of Government remain to be provided for.

XIV. THE pay of the officers of government annually will amount to about, £ 27,950 0 0

To diſcharge which,

1ſt. The duties on ſales by the auctioneers are appropriated hereto by act of 13th April, 1782, and will produce annually about £ 6,000 0 0

2d. The monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, which are by act of 25th March, 1785, ſpecially charged with the payment of the ſalaries of the judges of the ſupreme court, 3,000 0 0

3d. Court fines and forfeitures, which are in ſome meaſure uncertain, but the annual amount may be ſet at - 3,000 0 0

4th. The fees received and accounted for to the ſtate by the ſecretary of the council and the receiver general, ſurveyor general and ſecretary of the land office, about - 11,250 0 0

5th. The monies ariſing from taxes upon writs, payable to the ſtate by the prothonotaries of certain counties, appropriated to this purpoſe, March 20th, 1783, - - 2,600 0 0

Note, This tax ought to be reviſed; it operates very unequally at preſent, on account of the late diviſion of counties, and not being apportioned according to the profits of the offices reſpectively.

6th. The annual tax upon pleaſurable carriages, appropriated as aforeſaid, - - - - - 2,600 0 0

£ 28,450 0 0

Surpluſage to be deducted, - - 500 0 0

£ 27,950 0 0

XV. THE expences of government are uncertain, and depend upon the exigencies thereof, and the improvements that may be made for the encouragement and promotion of learning, commerce, agriculture and manufactures.

There are, however, in addition to the grants which have been made for the above uſeful purpoſes, ſundry revenues which are by law appropriated, viz.

The tonnage upon ſhipping entering and clearing the port of Philadelphia, appropriated to ſupport the light-houſe at Cape-Henlopen; for erecting piers, and fixing buoys and beacons in the bay and river Delaware.

The amount whereof annually is about - - - £ 2,300 0 0

The health-office, for the ſum of 6d. per head, received from paſſengers entering the port of Philadelphia, appropriated to ſupport and keep in repair the hoſpital on State-Iſland, for the reception of paſſengers who have infectious diſeaſes, amounting annually to about, - - - - - - 90 0 0

Carried forward, £ 2,390 0 0

Brought forward, -		£ 2,390 0 0
Note, The hoſpital aforeſaid and lot adjoining is alſo appropriated to ſaid uſes.		
The lottery-office, per act paſſed the 15th of March, 1784, for raiſing by way of lottery the ſum of 42,000 dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards improving the navigation of the river Schuylkill, one moiety of the neat proceeds to each,		15,750 0 0
Note, According to the directions of the act aforeſaid, the monies ariſing from the ſales of tickets hath been paid to the Bank of North-America. This part therefore ought to be repealed, and the money taken out of their hands; 1ſt, becauſe the monies of the ſtate ought not to be perverted to the uſe of individuals; 2d, becauſe it is contrary to the conſtitution, which provides that all monies belonging to the commonwealth ſhall be paid into the ſtate treaſury.		
The arrears of the provincial taxes due from the county of Northumberland, appropriated by reſolution of 22d March, 1784, to defray the expences of making a public road from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury, ſay, -		3,000 0 0
		£ 21,140 0 0

The aſcertaining of the weſtern and northern boundaries of the ſtate, and marking the ſame; the ſum uncertain, but ſay	£ 3,500 0 0	
The commiſſioners for dividing the iſlands in the river Delaware, and ſurveying the ſaid river and its navigable branches, above Trenton, and their expences, ſay - - -	600 0 0	
The agent to view the donation lands, and to explore the ſaid country, and report, - -	180 0 0	
Repairs of the State-Houſe, - -	750 0 0	
Improvement of the State-Houſe lot, ſay, -	600 0 0	
		£ 5,630 0 0
Theſe are temporary expences, and to be paid out of the arrears of taxes.		

The expences for printing the laws, minutes, bills, &c. of the general aſſembly, and other printing for the ſtate, firewood, candles and ſtationary, tranſcribing laws and minutes, expreſſes when ſent on public buſineſs, rewards offered by proclamation, attornies fees in cauſes of the ſtate, expences of the judges when on the circuit, payment for ſlaves executed for capital offences, for attending the State-Houſe clock, attending the ſtate flag, ringing the bells on extraordinary occaſions, and other ſuch like expences, per annum, about - -		£ 6,000 0 0
Payment of which is to be provided for as follows.		
Surpluſage of the appropriation for the pay of officers of government, - -	£ 500 0 0	
There remains, of the old 80,000*l.* loan-office, a principal ſum of *l.* 401 15 0, which, with the intereſt thereupon, will amount to 1000*l.* for 1786 and 1787, at 500*l.* each year, -	500 0 0	
The 150,000*l.* loan-office will be liberated by the firſt of January, 1787, the capital then remaining, 8,350*l.* will produce an annual intereſt of 500*l.* to commence when the aforeſaid two years expire.		
The annual intereſt of the laſt 50,000*l.* loan-office, -	3,000 0 0	
That the ſum of 2,000*l.* the deficiency thereof, be ſupplied annually, out of the duties on imports, and taxes, -	2,000 0 0	
		£ 6,000 0 0

Revenues and Appropriations.

I. The arrears of taxes due in continental money, - -		£ 2,638,496 5 9
Charged with,		
Balance due in reſolve money, (1) -	£ 121,356 12 5	
Ditto, in commonwealth ditto, (2) -	108,848 17 5	
Balance due to the United States on the ſinking fund requiſition, (3) - - -	558,692 12 6	
Abatements and exonerations according to law, made on account of the depredations of the enemy on the frontiers, ſay	600,000 0 0	
Will be received in old continental money, beyond the ſum due to the United States, and in continental certificates, according to act of 30th of May, 1780, ſay - -	410,000 0 0	
Will be collected in ſtate money, at 75 for 1, over and above the ſum neceſſary for exchanging reſolve, commonwealth and continental bills of credit, and to be carried to the ſtate money funds, - - - -	889,598 3 5	
		£ 2,688,496 5 9

II. The arrears of taxes, and other funds in ſtate money.

The above *l.* 889,598 3 5, payable in ſtate money at 75 for one,		£ 11,861 6 2	
The arrears of the tax of five ſhillings per pound, ſee reſolution of Aſſembly September 21ſt, 1782, about		8,500 0 0	
The arrears of the firſt claſs tax,		4,200 0 0	
The arrears of the ſtate money taxes, quotaed upon the counties,		84,667 2 11	
The payments to the Receiver General's office for land, where titles commenced before 10th of December, 1776. It is directed, by act paſſed 16th September, 1785, that after the 10th April, 1787, proſecutions ſhall be commenced againſt all delinquents: Comparing the future with the paſt, and with probable cauſes, there will be received in ſtate money, between the 1ſt December, 1785, and 10th of April, 1787,		18,600 0 0	
			£ 127,828 9 1
Charged with,			
The amount of bills of April 7th, 1781, yet to be redeemed (6)		£ 72,262 16 10	
Sundry accounts and balances due by the commonwealth, payable in ſtate money, according to acts and reſolutions of Aſſembly,		14,632 0 0	
The bills of April 7th, 1781, neceſſary to exchange the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, ſay,		4,000 0 0	
The payment of ſaid bills of June 1ſt, 1780, in diſcharge of the ſtate money taxes, ſay,		9,100 0 0	
Abatements and exonerations in payment of taxes, on account of the diſtreſſes of the frontiers, occaſioned by the enemy, ſay,		27,833 12 3	
			£ 127,828 9 1

III. The funds for redeeming the bills of June 1ſt, 1780.

To be taken in by exchange for ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, as aforeſaid,		£ 4,000 0 0	
To be received in ſtate money taxes, do.		9,100 0 0	
The arrears due for principal ſums on mortgages of the 150,000*l.* loan-office erected in 1774, amounts to	29,126 17 3		
Of which there will be quotas, not yet due, payable on the 31ſt December, 1786,	8,350 0 0		
Principal,	20,776 17 3		
By the 31ſt of December, 1786, there will be due for intereſt hereon, about	19,223 2 9		
		40,000 0 0	
			£ 53,100 0 0
Charged with,			
The principal of the bills to be redeemed, 109,610 dollars, equal to (5)		41,103 15 0	
The intereſt thereof at 5 per cent. per annum, from the 1ſt of June, 1780, till the time they will be due, allowing for ſuch as may be redeemed before that time by the means aforeſaid, about		11,996 5 0	
			£ 53,100 0 0

IV. The balances due on the ſales of city lots.

The amount of the principal thereof unpaid,	7,492 9 6	
In the treaſury on account of ſales,	548 0 0	
		£ 8,040 9 6
Charged thereupon,		
The bills dated 29th April, 1780, yet to be redeemed, (4)	1,103 15 0	
The intereſt thereon till the time they become due,	225 10 0	
Remains a fund for redemption of depreciation and other certificates. lots to the amount of	6,711 4 6	
		£ 8,040 9 6

V. The impoſt duties, from March till November 1ſt, 1784.

The amount, excluſive of ſundry entries not yet aſcertained,	-	£ 83,050 0 0
Of which there hath been diſburſed,	41,794 9 10	
Appropriated to pay the firſt inſtalment to the proprietaries, per act 9th February, 1785, (11)	15,643 14 4	
To diſcharge the arrears of intereſt upon the funded depreciation certificates, (10)	25,097 19 3	
Surplus carried to aggregate fund,	513 16 7	
		£ 83,050 0 0

VI. The exciſe on ſpirituous liquors.

The neat proceeds annually about				£ 15,000	0	0
Charged with,						
The current intereſt of the funded depreciation certificates, (10)				£ 15,000	0	0

VII. The annual revenue from duties on imports and taxes.

The amount of the impoſt duties may be eſtimated at	£ 75,000	0	0			
The annual tax, per act of 16th March, 1785,	76,945	17	6			
				£ 151,945	17	6
Charged with,						
The bills of credit to be ſunk annually for 7½ years (8)	£ 20,000	0	0			
The annual intereſt of the certificates of April 1ſt, 1784, (9)	10,600	0	0			
To be paid annually to the proprietaries for 6½ years, (11)	25,000	0	0			
The annual intereſt on the continental debt certificates, (13)	91,900	0	0			
Towards diſcharging the annual expences of government, (15)	2,000	0	0			
Exceſs, to be carried annually to the aggregate fund,	2,445	17	6			
				£ 151,945	17	6

VIII. The aggregate fund.

The amount of the arrears of taxes in ſpecie, due before the 1ſt July, 1784,	£ 396,991	0	6			
Ditto before the 1ſt January, 1736,	76,945	17	6			
Now in the treaſury, or paid out in intereſt, &c. ſince the 1ſt of January laſt, which payments are herein after charged on the fund,	51,030	6	8			
The emiſſion of bills of credit March 16th, 1785, excluſive of the ſum iſſued on loan,	100,000	0	0			
The duties on imports from 1ſt November, 1784, to the 1ſt November, 1785, ſay,	75,000	0	0			
Surplus brought from the duties on imports to 1ſt Nov. 1784,	513	16	7			
The annual exceſs of the revenue from imports and taxes,	2,445	17	6			
				£ 702,926	18	9
The payments to the continental loan-office, for diſcharging the intereſt on debts of the United States till 16th November, 1785,	£ 93,167	12	1			
The payments on account of intereſt aforeſaid to 1ſt January 1786, ſay, (12)	8,800	0	0			
The payments which have been made to the United States in money, on account of the requiſitions of Congreſs ſince Jan. 1785, (12)	15,715	14	10			
The intereſt notes redeemed out of the *l*.51,030 6 8 aforeſaid,	5,402	3	1			
The reſidue of the order of 6,500*l*. in favour of James Meaſe, Eſquire, charged upon the arrears of effective ſupplies of 1781, per reſolution of Aſſembly 16th March, 1784,	5,177	15	0			
The intereſt notes to be redeemed (7)	2,103	16	10			
To diſcharge the intereſt on the certificates of April 1ſt, 1784, until 1ſt Jan. 1786, including what hath been paid (9)	27,155	15	7			
The ſecond payment of the grant to the late proprietaries, due September 3d, 1785, (11)	25,000	0	0			
The balance due on the requiſitions of the United States, to be paid before the 1ſt May, 1786, (12)	24,916	6	3			
Arrears due on the continental debt certificates to the 1ſt of January, 1786, (13)	367,600	0	0			
The expences of determining the boundaries of the ſtate, &c.	5,630	0	0			
The abatements and exonerations from the taxes of the frontier inhabitants, drove off and diſtreſſed by the enemy, ſay,	30,000	0	0			
	£ 610,669	3	8			
Surplus remaining,	92,257	15	1			
				£ 702,926	18	9

In the foregoing, no note is taken of the arrearages of the provincial taxes (other than that part due from Northumberland county) nor of the balances due from individuals, both of which are to be carried into the aggregate fund.

There is alſo another ſource of revenue not mentioned, which would be productive, but is at preſent loſt for want of an officer authoriſed to collect it, viz. the property eſcheated to the commonwealth. This ought not to be longer neglected.

Any deficiencies which may ariſe, or extraordinary charges to be provided for, are to be made up out of the aggregate fund, and all ſurpluſſes to be added thereunto, and the balance thereof remaining to be applied to diſcharge the principal of the debt, in ſuch manner as ſhall be by law directed.

That in order to bring to a ſpeedy ſettlement the officers concerned in collecting the taxes, ſo much of the act which conſtitutes the office of the comptroller general of this ſtate, as excepts the accounts of "the collectors of the public taxes, and the treaſurers of the different counties," from being examined and ſettled by him, be repealed, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

It was moved by Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid Report, in order to introduce, in lieu thereof, the following Plan, *viz.*

THE Committee of Ways and Means have thought it their duty to inveſtigate, with all the minuteneſs and accuracy in their power,

Firſt. The ſums of money, which the engagements and demands of the ſtate render neceſſary.

Second. The ſources, from which thoſe ſums may be ſupplied.

Under the firſt head of their enquiries, they find,

I. THAT the paper money emitted in 1775, 1776 and 1777, amounted to			£ 400,000 0 0
Of this (as appears by the treaſurer's return) burnt, -		£ 99,878 13 10	
By ditto, in the treaſury, - -		69,915 17 2	
			169,794 11 0
Balance due, -			£ 230,205 9 0
This money being now redeemable, at 175 for one, the above balance is, -			£ 1,315 9 3
II. THAT the money emitted according to act of March, 1780, amounted to - - - - -		£ 100,000 0 0	
Of this (as appears by the treaſurer's return) burnt,	£ 98,375 0 0		
By ditto, in the treaſury, - -	521 5 0		
		98,896 5 0	
			1,103 15 0
This money bears intereſt at 5 per cent. wherefore for ſix years ſay 30 per cent. on *l.* 1,103 15 0, - - - -			330 16 6
III. THAT the intereſt notes directed by act of March, 1783, amounted to - - -		*Dol.* 166,571$\frac{1}{2}$	
Of theſe (as appears by the treaſurer's return) burnt,	146,555		
By ditto, in the treaſury, - -	14,405$\frac{1}{4}$		
		160,960$\frac{3}{4}$	
Balance due, -		*Dol.* 5,610$\frac{3}{4}$	2,104 0 8
			£ 4,854 1 5
IV. THAT the quota of Pennſylvania, towards ſinking the old continental money, is - -		*Dol.* 29,900,000	
By the continental loan-officer's return it appears that he has received	28,193,319$\frac{15}{90}$		
In the treaſury, by the treaſurer's return,	269,200		
		28,462,519$\frac{15}{90}$	
Balance due, -		1,437,480$\frac{75}{90}$	
Dollars 1,437,480$\frac{75}{90}$, at 75 for 1, is dollars 19,166$\frac{37}{90}$, - -			£ 7,187 7 9
V. THAT the quota of Pennſylvania, in the new continental money, iſſued by reſolutions of March, 1780, is - -		*Dol.* 1,495,000	
Of this ſum, four tenths belonged to Congreſs,	598,000		
The remaining ſix tenths were to be delivered to the ſtate, in proportion to her payments of the old continental, - - - -	897,000		
		1,495,000	
Of the ſum belonging to Congreſs, - - -		598,000	
Paid out by their order, - -	208,000		
Exchanged for ſtate paper, by order of the late ſuperintendant of finance, but left in the loan-office,	390,000		
		598,000	
Of the ſum belonging to the ſtate, - - - -		897,000	
Received by the treaſurer from the loan-officer,	845,800		
In the loan-office, which will belong to the ſtate on paying in the old continental, -	51,200		
		897,000	
Carried forward, -			£ 7,187 7 9

Brought forward, -			£ 7,187 7 9
Of the total ſum - - - - -		1,495,000	
In the loan-office as above, - - -	390,000		
Ditto, - - - . -	51,200		
In the treaſury, (according to the treaſurer's return)	944,190		
		1,385,390	
Balance due, -		109,610	
This money bears 5 per cent. intereſt, wherefore, for ſix years intereſt, add 30 per cent. - - - -		32,883	
Total due, -		*Dol.* 142,493	53,434 17 6
VI. THAT the paper money emitted in purſuance of the act of April, 1781, amounted to - - -		£ 486,500 0 0	
Of this (as appears by the treaſurer's return) has been burnt, - - -	£ 145,400 0 0		
In the treaſury (by ditto) - -	236,407 7 7		
In the continental loan-office, being part of that exchanged, - - - - - -	32,429 15 7		
		414,237 3 2	
Balance due, -			72,262 16 10
VII. THAT the paper money iſſued according to the act of March laſt was, - - - - - -		£ 150,000 0 0	
Of this, appropriated to the intereſt of the public debt, - - - -	£ 100,000 0 0		
To the eſtabliſhment of a loan-office, -	50,000 0 0		
		150,000 0 0	
By the continental loan-officer's return, it appears that he has paid for intereſt, -	*Dol.* 248,446½	£ 93,167 8 9	
Add the amount appropriated to a loan-office, - -		50,000 0 0	
		£ 143,167 8 9	
By the treaſurer's return, it appears that he has about 100,000*l.* and that there is ſtill due to the truſtees of the loan-office 15,000*l.* difference to be deducted, about - - -		85,000 0 0	
			58,167 8 9
VIII. THAT by the comptroller's return, it appears that under the acts of April, 1784, and March, 1785, he has iſſued certificates which amount in the whole to - - -		£ 93,155 6 11	
Of this there has been redeemed, - - -		17,616 11 5	
			75,538 15 6
IX. THAT by the comptroller's return, it appears that ſundry ſums are due for certificates iſſued in the year 1780. Theſe he eſtimates at - - -			14,632 0 0
X. THAT by the comptroller's return, it appears that the debt due for depreciation, as far as it has been aſcertained, amounts to		£ 549,706 6 7	
Of which paid in ſtate money, - -	141,408 7 4		
Redeemed by ſales of forfeited eſtates, -	45,994 6 5		
By the land-office, - - - -	37,145 17 7		
Remains now in the land-office, -	7,059 15 2		
		231,608 6 6	
Balance, -		£ 318,098 0 1	
Five years intereſt, at 6 per cent. is 30 per cent.		95,429 8 0	
			413,527 8 1
Amount due by the ſtate, to be provided for, - - - -			£ 694,650 14 5
XI. THAT it appears by the comptroller's ſtate, that there is due for depreciation not yet ſettled, a ſum which he eſtimates at - - - -			£ 77,878 14 11
XII. AND that ſundry ſums are due for ſervices, &c. before the year 1784, which he eſtimates, including the demands on forfeited eſtates, at - -			133,679 12 2¾
Total, -			£ 211,558 7 1¾

XIII. THAT by the continental loan-officer's return, it appears that he has paid intereſt during this year to the amount of dollars 248,446½: But as the amount of the debt on which that intereſt is payable becomes every day greater by the ſettle-

	£	s.	d.
ments of the commiſſioners of accounts, the ſum payable by the United States for intereſt to citizens of the ſtate of Penſylvania may be eſtimated at dollars 284,000, which being on a capital that bears 6 per cent. gives for that capital dollars 4,733,333⅓, or - -	£ 1,775,000	0	0
XIV. THAT the ſum due to the late proprietors of Pennſylvania, by the act of November 1779, may be eſtimated at - - -	225,000	0	0
	£ 2,000,000	0	0
Capital of the debt 2,000,000*l.* intereſt at 6 per cent. -	120,000	0	0
XV. THAT the ſupport of government will require annually, according to the comptroller's return, about - -	£ 30,000	0	0
And the expences of government may require annually, about -	12,000	0	0
	£ 42,000	0	0
XVI. THAT there is due on the requiſitions made by Congreſs, in October 1781, Sept. 1782, April 1784, and Sept. 1785, *Dol.* 245,109, equal to -	£ 91,915	17	6

Under the ſecond head of their enquiries, the attention of the committee has been drawn to the following ſources of revenue.

	£	s.	d.
I. It is propoſed, with regard to the three firſt balances againſt the ſtate, that ſuch of theſe different kinds of paper as may be brought to the treaſury before the 1ſt day of September next be paid as before mentioned. The fund from whence the means are ultimately to ariſe, is the balance of city lots ſold. This amounts, by the comptroller's return, to *l.* 7,492 9 6. The purchaſers of ſome of theſe lots have, it ſeems, failed; others have given up their bargains; and others are deſirous of doing ſo; wherefore the amount cannot be ſtated: But, if proper meaſures are taken, it will be more than ſufficient to pay the amount of thoſe three balances, viz.	£ 4,854	1	5

II. The ſums contained in the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th charges againſt the ſtate, give a ſum of *l.* 694,650 14 5, to be provided for, which may be done by the following funds.

	£	s.	d.
1ſt. Arrearages of old continental taxes, *l.* 2,688,496 5 9, at 75 for 1,	£ [illegible]	[illegible]	3
2d. Arrearages of ſtate money taxes, equivalent to ſpecie, -	[illegible]	[illegible]	11
3d. Arrearages of ſpecie taxes, payable before the 1ſt of January laſt, -	[illegible]	[illegible]	6
4th. Arrearages of the five ſhilling tax and firſt claſs tax, ſuppoſed	[illegible]	[illegible]	0
5th. Arrearages of the old loan-office, ſuppoſed -	[illegible]	[illegible]	0
6th. The amount of the duties to the 1ſt day of January next, after deducting what may remain due on the reſolution of March 1784, in favour of James Meaſe, may be about - - -	40,000	0	0
7th. The tax laid in March laſt, and now in collection, is - -	76,495	17	6
	£ 696,700	13	2
Amount to be provided for, - -	694,650	14	5
Exceſs of the funds, beyond the debt, - -	£ 2,049	18	9

III. As the demands under the 11th and 12th articles have not been duly liquidated, the preciſe amount cannot be aſcertained: But it is conceived that the exceſs abovementioned, together with the ſales of lands, formerly pledged for the redemption of depreciation certificates, and the arrearages of militia fines, ſuppoſed to be about 31,500*l.* would be more than ſufficient to pay them; and that probably theſe ſources would afford the means of ſatisfying claimants as faſt as their claims could be adjuſted. The balance ſhould be carried to the aggregate fund.

IV. In order to provide for the ſum contained in the 13th and 14th articles, it is propoſed that a ſubſcription be opened at the Bank for a loan of 2,000,000*l.* to the ſtate, the ſubſcription to be kept open till the firſt day of April next. The ſubſcribers to pay one-fourth of the ſubſcription down, one-fourth on the firſt Monday in April, one-fourth on the firſt Monday in July, and the remainder on the firſt Monday in October. The payments to be in loan-office certificates, or other certificates of debts due by the United States to citizens of Pennſylvania, on which the intereſt is by law now payable in Pennſylvania, or in ſuch depreciation certificates as are now entitled to receive intereſt from the exciſe, or in ſpecie. The intereſt to be payable from the firſt day of April, at the Bank, half yearly. The firſt half year's intereſt to be paid on the firſt Monday in October, the ſecond on the firſt Monday in April 1787, and ſo on, until the final payment of the principal. The late Proprietors to be entitled to the abovementioned ſum of 225,000*l.* of the loan, or to adhere to their rights under the Act of November 1779, at their option.

The proviſion propoſed for payment of the intereſt, and eventual payment of the principal, is as follows:

I. A Tax on imports.

Under this head it is to be obſerved, that as the preſent plan is calculated to forward and not obſtruct the views of the United States, the duties propoſed will be the loweſt ſtated in their recommendation. And when their ſyſtem ſhall be generally adopted, the duties now propoſed may be relinquiſhed, and an equivalent ſum be paid to the Bank from the duties raiſed for payment of intereſt on the debt of the United States; and of which a conſiderable part will be payable to the ſtate, in conſequence of their receiving continental certificates for a loan made by the ſtate.

It is further to be obſerved alſo, that ſuch duties as it may be adviſeable to collect for the promotion of uſeful manufactures, or protecting navigation, may be carried into the aggregate fund hereafter mentioned. Theſe being in their nature temporary, ought not to be depended on as a baſis of public credit.

The duties propoſed are,

1ſt. On ſugar. It appears that the loaf ſugar imported in one year was 505,095 *lb.* and other ſugar 7,700,869 *lb.* making together 8,209,964 *lb.* ſay 8,000,000 at ½*d.* £ 16,666 13 4

2dly. On ſpirits. It appears that the rum imported in one year was 1,074,523 gallons, and the other ſpirits were 122,789 gallons, making together 1,197,312 gallons; but ſuppoſe in future 1,000,000 at 3*d.* - - 12,500 0 0

3dly. On melaſſes. The quantity imported in one year was 564,394 gallons, but ſay 500,000 at 1*d.* - - - - - 2,083 6 8

4thly. On wine. The quantity of Madeira wine imported in one year was 41,608 gallons, and the quantity of other wine 251,953, (beſides bottled wine) making together 293,561 gallons, but ſay 280,000 at 6*d.* - - - 7,000 0 0

5thly. On coffee and cocoa. The quantity of coffee imported in one year was 618,986 *lb.* and the quantity of cocoa 85,606 *lb.* making together 704,592, but ſuppoſe in future 600,000 at 1*d.* - - - 2,500 0 0

6thly. On tea. The tea imported (other than green tea) was in one year 341,344 *lb.* but ſuppoſe that hereafter the total of bohea tea be 300,000 at 6*d.* - 7,500 0 0

The green tea imported in one year was 44,903, but if the duty be laid on all other than bohea, it may be collected on about 50,000 *lb.* which at 2*ſ.* - 5,000 0 0

7thly. On all other articles 2½ per cent. There was imported in one year above two millions value; but the ſubſequent imports were leſs by more than one half. We may therefore eſtimate on 1,000,000 *l.* at 2½ per cent. - - 25,000 0 0

£ 78,250 0 0

Deduct for charge of collection, - - - - - 3,250 0 0

£ 75,000 0 0

Note, The amount mentioned (as imported) in the preceding articles, is the balance which remained, after deducting what was exported within the ſame period of time.

II. The Exciſe.

This can only be calculated on for the balance, after paying the intereſt of certificates funded on it. But as other proviſion is made for paying off thoſe certificates, which are alſo receivable for the propoſed loan, the holders will either accept the payment offered, which will liberate this fund, or they will become ſubſcribers to the loan, which will alſo liberate it, or (continuing to receive their intereſt from the exciſe) a ſum will remain (from the funds propoſed to redeem thoſe certificates) to pay off a part of the loan, equivalent thereto.

The amount of wine and ſpirits imported at the city of Philadelphia was near 1,500,000 gallons. If an allowance be made for ſpirits diſtilled within the ſtate, and ſuch as are brought in through other channels, there would remain, after a large allowance for the conſumption of neighbouring ſtates, at leaſt 1,200,000 gallons, which at 1*d.* per gallon ought to yield 5,000*l.* The exciſe at preſent, when 8*d.* per gallon is laid, does not produce in that proportion by any means. Wherefore there is reaſon to ſuppoſe ſome defect in the collection. If the exciſe were raiſed to two ſhillings per gallon, and properly collected, it is to be expected that it would yield, clear of all expences, at leaſt £ 75,000 0 0

£ 150,000 0 0

Total intereſt to be paid, - - - - - - 120,000 0 0

Remains for the ſinking fund, - - - - - £ 30,000 0 0

IV. The ſum neceſſary for the ſupport and contingent expences of government is (by the 15th article) 42,000*l.*

The following funds are propoſed to defray that expence:

1ſt. Court fines, forfeitures, tavern and marriage licences, - £ 6,000 0 0

2d. The tax on ſales by auction. This tax would probably yield much more than at preſent, if levied generally throughout the ſtate, and if licence to execute the

Carried forward, - £ 6,000 0 0

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward,	£ 6,000	0	0
buſineſs of an auctioneer were granted to all perſons of fair character applying therefor, on giving ſecurity for their good conduct. At preſent it yields about	6,000	0	0
3d. The tax on pleaſurable carriages, an increaſing fund, but at preſent about	2,600	0	0
4th. The fees received and accounted for to the ſtate by the ſecretary of the council, and the receiver-general, ſurveyor-general and ſecretary of the land-office, about	11,250	0	0
5th. The annual intereſt of the new loan-office, deducting expences, about	2,500	0	0
6th. A tax on legal proceedings. For this purpoſe, the coſts of ſuit might be encreaſed by paying the prothonotaries an additional ſum of 5*ſ* for every writ, and 2*ſ* for every declaration, plea or demurrer, and 5*ſ* for recording every deed, mortgage, &c. A ſalary might then be aſſigned to each prothonotary and the balance of fees be paid into the treaſury, or the office might be granted annually to ſuch attorney at law as ſhould offer to give moſt for it, and find good ſecurity. This tax, it is ſuppoſed, would produce above 20,000*l.* but ſay, -	18,000	0	0
	£ 46,350	0	0
Amount to be provided for, - - - - -	42,000	0	0
Exceſs of the funds, - - - - - -	£ 4,350	0	0

This exceſs ſhould be carried to the aggregate fund hereafter mentioned, and that fund ſhould be chargeable with the deficiency, if any.

Note, It is not improbable that the funds will be inſufficient for the purpoſes to which they are appropriated. The diſturbances at Wyoming may perhaps call for a conſiderable ſum, which is not comprehended in the eſtimate.

VI. The amount due on the requiſitions of Congreſs is (according to the 16th article) *l.* 91,915 17 6, which is payable by their act on the 1ſt day of May next. From this ſum muſt be taken, 1ſt. The intereſt which will at that time be due to Pennſylvania from the United States on continental certificates received at the land-office and in taxes. 2d. The monies paid and payable before the firſt of May to penſioners diſabled in the ſervice. Theſe two articles will probably amount to about 52,000 *l.* and will of courſe reduce the balance to about 40,000 *l.*

But as it is propoſed to receive on the abovementioned loan to the ſtate, continental certificates to the amount both of the principal and the intereſt which may be due on them, the intereſt will form a conſiderable part of the ſum. The total is eſtimated at 1,775,000*l.* and therefore that part which conſiſts of intereſt muſt greatly exceed the above balance of 40,000*l.*

Note, The poſſeſſors of loan-office certificates bearing date before the 1ſt day of March, 1778, are entitled (by reſolutions of Congreſs) to receive 6 per cent. on the ſum ſpecified in their certificates, although their real value (by the continental ſcale of depreciation) is conſiderably leſs than the nominal ſum. Hence it follows that the calculation (in the 13th article) of a principal ſum due, which is made according to the amount of intereſt actually paid by the loan-officer, is erroneous. But ſince the intereſt due on continental certificates will (as juſt mentioned) be an addition to the principal, it is probable that the exceſs of one will balance the deficiency of the other.

By receiving in the propoſed loan (at their real value) thoſe certificates which bear an intereſt of 6 per cent. on more than their real value, the ſtate will gain the difference between the intereſt on ſuch real value, and the intereſt now payable by the United States, and the preſent holders of the certificates will have no reaſon to complain, becauſe they may (at their option) either lend them to the ſtate on the terms held out, or have recourſe to the United States on the terms of their reſolutions.

On the future requiſitions of Congreſs, whenever they can be proportioned (either by the rule laid down in the articles of confederation, or by the rule lately recommended by the ſtates) it will be expedient to raiſe an account of quotas with the United States, paſſing to their credit the total ſum payable by Pennſylvania, and to their debit the total ſum which Pennſylvania has paid. The balance of this account (being the exceſs or deficiency of payments) will be carried forward, ſo as eventually to be liquidated in the annual demands of Congreſs, and annual payments of the ſtate. Since therefore a conſiderable ſum will (in the event) be payable to the United States every year (however the balance may now ſtand) it will be expedient to continue the preſent annual tax on property, and carry the proceeds to the aggregate fund, which will receive,—

	£	s.	d.
1ſt. The annual tax juſt now mentioned, - - -	£ 76,495	17	6
2d. The exceſs of the city lots, beyond the ſum charged on them by Article I. ſay	4,000	0	0
3d. The exceſs of the funds for ſupport of government, Article V. -	4,350	0	0
4th. The ſales of the barracks, ſay - - -	10,154	2	6
5th. The balance of Article III. being the ſum which the lands mortgaged for redemption of depreciation certificates may ſell for, more than with the other funds there mentioned ſhall be neceſſary to pay the unſettled debts of the ſtate,			
6th. The arrears due for lands purchaſed of the late Proprietors, -			
7th. The proceeds of the new loan-office, when the principal lent ſhall be payable,	50,000	0	0
Carried forward -			

Brought forward -

8th. All forfeited property, not already diſpoſed of, and generally all dues to the ſtate, not otherwiſe appropriated, - - -

9th. The duties laid for encouraging particular manufactures or productions, and for protecting the commerce of the ſtate, - - - -

£

This fund will be chargeable, firſt, with deficiencies, if any, in thoſe appropriated to the ſupport of government; and ſecondly, with what may become due to the United States annually, after deducting the intereſt payable by them to Pennſylvania. When theſe demands are all ſatisfied, the ſurplus of the aggregate fund ſhould be paid into the bank, in aid of the ſinking fund, which would by this means pay off, annually, about 100,000*l.* of the above debt of 2,000,000*l.*

On the foregoing eſtimate of debts due or to be incurred by the ſtate, and of funds for the payment thereof, your committee beg leave to ſubmit the following reſolutions to the conſideration of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That all paper money emitted by this ſtate in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, which ſhall be paid into the treaſury on or before the day of next, be redeemed with ſpecie, at the rate of One Dollar in ſpecie for every One Hundred and Seventy-five Dollars of the ſaid paper. That the city lots heretofore ſold for redemption of the paper money emitted according to the act of March 1780, be farther appropriated as a fund for the payment abovementioned, and alſo for payment of intereſt notes iſſued according to the act of March, 1783, and that after payment thereof, and of the paper money emitted according to the ſaid act of March 1780, the balance ariſing from the ſaid lots be carried to a general aggregate fund.

Reſolved, That all arrears of taxes laid in old continental money, be received in ſuch money until the day of next, but not afterwards, and that from and after that day the ſame ſhall be payable in ſpecie, at the rate of One Dollar in ſpecie for every Seventy-five Dollars of ſuch old continental money.

Reſolved, That all paper money which now is in, or which ſhall hereafter come into the treaſury, be burnt and deſtroyed, excepting the old continental money, and ſo much of the laſt emiſſion of ſtate money as may yet remain due to the Truſtees of the loan-office.

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer do pay over to the Continental Loan-Officer, all ſuch old continental money as may be in or may come into the treaſury, until the full and final diſcharge of the balance due to the United States according to the reſolutions of Congreſs of the 16th of March, 1780, and that he demand and receive all ſuch ſums of the new continental money belonging to this ſtate, as now are or hereafter may be in the ſaid loan-office.

Reſolved, That the Delegates of this ſtate be directed to requeſt of Congreſs, an order to their Loan-Officer to pay into the ſtate treaſury ſo much of the bills of credit, emitted in purſuance of the act of April 1781, as may now be in the continental loan-office, on condition that the ſame be paſſed to the debit of this ſtate in the old accounts now about to be ſettled by the Commiſſioner of the United States, appointed for that purpoſe.

Reſolved, That the arrearages due on taxes laid in old continental money (after paying off the balance due on ſuch money to the United States;) the arrearages due on taxes laid in new continental money, and in ſtate money emitted according to the act of April 1781; the arrearages of taxes in ſpecie, payable before the 1ſt day of January laſt; the arrearages due on the taxes commonly called the five ſhilling and firſt claſs taxes; the ſums due and which may become due on the old loan-offices; the amount of the duties on impoſts due and which may become due by the 1ſt day of January next, over and above the preſent appropriations thereof; and the amount of the tax laid in March laſt, be a redemption fund, and appropriated to the payment and redemption of the following debts, dues and demands, to wit. So much as may remain due on the reſolution of March 1784, in favor of James Meaſe, deceaſed. So much as may remain due on the bills emitted according to the reſolution of Congreſs of March 1780, commonly called new continental money. So much as may remain due for bills of credit emitted in purſuance of the act of April 1781. And the amount of the bills emitted according to the act of March laſt. Alſo the amount of all certificates iſſued, or which may be iſſued by the Comptroller-General, for debts due to individuals, by the 1ſt day of January next, including thoſe for depreciation of pay. And the amount of all certificates iſſued in the year 1780, not yet redeemed. And that ſo much of the ſaid fund, as may remain after paying the ſeveral debts, dues and demands aforeſaid, be carried to the fund for debts unliquidated.

Reſolved, That the balance which may remain on the redemption fund, together with the arrearages of militia fines, and the monies which may ariſe from the ſales of land pledged for redemption of depreciation certificates (after redemption of ſuch certificates) be a fund for debts unliquidated, and appropriated to the payment of ſuch certificates as may be iſſued by the Comptroller-General after the 1ſt day of January next, for debts now due by the ſtate. And that ſo much of the fund laſt mentioned as may remain after paying the debts charged thereon, be carried to the general aggregate fund.

Reſolved, That a ſubſcription be opened at the bank, for a loan of 2,000,000*l.* to the ſtate, at ſix per cent. per annum intereſt, payable every half year. That the ſaid ſubſcription be kept open until the day of next. That the ſubſcribers pay one fourth of the ſum which they may reſpectively ſubſcribe at the time of ſubſcription, one fourth on the firſt Monday in next, one fourth on the firſt Monday in next, and one fourth on the firſt Monday in next. That on ſuch ſubſcriptions, ſpecie ſhall be received in payment, and alſo all ſuch certificates of debts due by the United States to citizens of this ſtate as are now entitled by law to draw intereſt, for the amount of the principal and intereſt due at the time of payment. And alſo all ſuch depreciation certificates as are now entitled to draw intereſt from the exciſe, for the amount of the principal and intereſt as aforeſaid. And alſo that the late Proprietors of Pennſylvania (if they ſhould incline to commute the ſum granted to them by the act of November 1779 for a ſhare in the ſaid ſubſcription) be entitled to ſubſcribe the ſum of in diſcharge of the ſaid grant. That the intereſt on the ſaid loan ſhall be payable half yearly at the bank. The firſt payment to be made on the firſt Monday in next. That for payment of the intereſt and eventual payment of the principal, the following funds be appropriated. Firſt, A duty of an halfpenny per pound, on all ſugar imported into the ſtate by land or water, from and after the day of next. Secondly, A duty of three-pence per gallon on all brandy, rum, and other ſpirits imported as aforeſaid. Thirdly, A duty of one penny per gallon on all melaſſes ſo imported. Fourthly, A duty of ſix-pence per gallon on all wines ſo imported. Fifthly, A duty of ſix-pence per pound on all bohea teas ſo imported. And Sixthly, A duty of two and an half per cent. ad valorem on all other articles ſo imported. That the ſaid duties be in lieu and ſtead of all thoſe now collected (excepting ſuch as are laid by the act of April laſt) all which duties, excepting thoſe ſo as aforeſaid excepted, ſhall ceaſe after the ſaid day of next. That as a further proviſion for the purpoſes aforeſaid, the exciſe on wine and ſpirituous liquors be raiſed to two ſhillings per gallon, that further and more effectual means be taken for the collection thereof, and that ſo much of the produce be applied to the purpoſes aforeſaid, as may remain after paying the intereſt on ſuch certificates, as being now entitled to receive the ſame from the exciſe, ſhall not be brought in on the propoſed ſubſcription. And that the exceſs which ſhall ariſe from all and ſingular the funds aforeſaid, after paying the intereſt on the ſaid loan, ſhall be carried to a ſinking fund.

Reſolved, That the ſums ariſing from court fines, forfeitures and tavern and marriage licences, the tax on ſales by auction, the tax on pleaſurable carriages, the fees received and accounted for to the ſtate by the Secretary of the Council, and the Receiver-General, Surveyor-General and Secretary of the land-office, and the profits ariſing from the loan-office inſtituted by the act of March laſt, be and continue appropriated a fund for the ſupport and contingent expences of government. That the Prothonotaries of the ſeveral counties be entitled, from and after the day of next, to receive, in addition to their preſent fees, the ſum of five ſhillings on every writ iſſued, the ſum of two ſhillings on every declaration, plea or demurrer, and the ſum of five ſhillings for recording every mortgage, conveyance or other deed. That the ſaid office of Prothonotary be granted annually to ſuch Attorney at law, practiſing in the reſpective county, as ſhall offer to give the moſt therefor, and find good ſecurity for payment of the ſum offered, in quarterly payments, and that the ſums ariſing therefrom be alſo appropriated to the ſupport and contingent expences of government. And that the ſums which may remain from the ſaid fund for the ſupport and contingent expences of government, after paying the ſums charged thereon, be carried to the aggregate fund.

Reſolved, That the annual taxes of *l.* 76,495 17 6, laid by the act of March laſt (except the firſt of the ſaid taxes which is now in collection) be carried to the aggregate fund, in addition to the ſeveral balances of the city lots, of the fund for debts unliquidated, the fund for the ſupport and contingent expences of government. That the ſales of the barracks lots adjoining be compleated, and effectual meaſures taken to obtain the monies ariſing therefrom, which ſhall alſo be carried to the aggregate fund. That effectual meaſures be taken to collect the arrearages due for lands purchaſed of the late Proprietors, and that the monies ariſing therefrom be alſo carried to the aggregate fund. That all duties on imports, not otherwiſe apropriated, be alſo carried to the aggregate fund. And that the forfeited property not yet diſpoſed of be ſold, and the proceeds thereof, and alſo generally all other debts and dues to the ſtate, not otherwiſe diſpoſed of, be carried to the aggregate fund. Which fund ſhall be and continue appropriated to pay any deficiencies which may happen in the fund for the ſupport and contingent expences of government, and alſo to pay the ſums payable to the late Proprietors, if they ſhould not become ſubſcribers to the propoſed loan. And that ſo much of the ſaid aggregate fund as may remain, after diſcharging annually the ſaid appropriations, ſhall be carried to the ſinking fund.

Reſolved, That the ſinking fund ſhall be appropriated to the gradual extinction of the ſtate debt, by payment of the principal thereof.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report bills for carrying into execution the ſeveral reſolutions above mentioned.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe poſtpone the foregoing report, in order to introduce the propoſed plan?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Carpenter*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *Anthony Wayne,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Thomas Bull,*
12 *John Hannum,*

YEAS.

13 *Jonathan Morris,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*
19 *Henry Miller,*
20 *Michael Schmyſer,*
21 *Philip Gartner,*
22 *Joſeph Lilly,*
23 *Henry Tyſon.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Robert Smith,*
6 *David M'Conaughy,*
7 *David M'Clellan,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*
9 *John Carothers,*
10 *Frederick Watts,*
11 *John Creigh,*
12 *Abraham Lincoln,*
13 *Nicholas Lutz,*
14 *Henry Spyker,*
15 *Philip Kreemer,*
16 *David Davis,*
17 *Baltſer Gehr,*
18 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
19 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
20 *Peter Burkhalter,*

NAYS.

21 *Robert Brown,*
22 *John Piper,*
23 *Frederick Antes,*
24 *Samuel Dale,*
25 *William Todd,*
26 *William Findley,*
27 *John M'Dowell,*
28 *John Smilie,*
29 *James M'Calmont,*
30 *Abraham Smith,*
31 *John Rhea,*
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
33 *Robert Loller,*
34 *Peter Richards,*
35 *Thomas Rees,*
36 *Adam Orth,*
37 *Robert Clark,*
38 *David Krouſe,*
39 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

It was, on motion made by Mr. *Loller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,
Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.
Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *December* 23, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Memorials from 287 of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* were read, ſetting forth, that they have long ſuffered under unequal taxes, occaſioned by the delinquency of ſeveral counties in this ſtate, to ſupport their juſt proportion of the burdens of government; that this partiality in the adminiſtration of the laws is not only contrary to the Conſtitution, but to freedom and juſtice; that they conceive, if the delinquency that has been ſo often complained of does not ariſe from the weakneſs of laws, or from the want of fidelity in the perſons appointed to execute them, it muſt originate in the defects of the preſent ſyſtem of taxation, or in its not being accommodated to the inclinations of a great part of the inhabitants of *Pennſylvania*; that they are no longer able to ſupport a mode of taxation which falls with ſuch unequal weight upon them; therefore praying that a more effective ſyſtem may be adopted, which ſhall be juſt, not only in theory, but in practice, and that ſpecie may be ſubſtituted in the room of paper money, for the purpoſes of paying the intereſt of the public debt and defraying the expences of government; and ſtating, that they are the more impelled to make this requeſt, both as citizens and public creditors, from having experienced that the late emiſſion of paper money has met with a very partial and difficult circulation in moſt of the counties of the ſtate, and that it is totally rejected in exchange for the ſtaple articles of the country.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Preſident and Directors of the Bank of *North-America* was read, ſetting forth, that the act, entituled "*An Act to repeal an act* "*of Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank "of *North-America*;" *alſo one other act, entituled* "An Act for preventing "and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, Bank bills and Bank "notes of the Preſident and Company of the Bank of *North-America*, and "for other purpoſes therein mentioned," paſſed the 13th day of *September* laſt, is injurious to the ſaid Bank, and inconſiſtent with the maxims of ſecurity that are eſtabliſhed and obſerved in every free government, becauſe the guards formerly placed round the property of the Bank are thereby removed, and becauſe no forfeiture or disfranchiſement was proved or alledged, to juſtify the recall of that charter which the legiſlature had formerly granted; therefore praying that the aforeſaid act may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from Dr. *Henry Moyes* was read, ſetting forth, that he is now ſolicited to give a courſe of lectures upon the Philoſophy of Natural Hiſtory; that he is at a loſs to obtain an apartment ſufficiently large, warm and commodious for that purpoſe; therefore requeſts he may be indulged in the uſe of the Aſſembly Chamber during the receſs of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Hubley* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, to report a particular account of the annual expenditure for the civil liſt, and to form a return of all officers of the ſtate who are entitled to public emoluments by ſalary, fee or perquiſite, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on Ways and Means, poſtponed yeſterday.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Order ſhould be taken that the above notes, and all the preceding bills of credit of this ſtate, in the treaſury, of every denomination, ſtruck before the year 1785, ſhould be burned and deſtroyed, *except a ſum of that part of the bills of April 7th,* 1781, *ſufficient to anſwer the payments charged thereon,* and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill directing all perſons poſſeſſed or that may be poſſeſſed of the bills of credit of this ſtate aforeſaid, emitted before the year 1785, to bring in the ſame for redemption and payment, according to the manner herein before preſcribed, on or before the following periods, *viz.* thoſe bills thereof emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, commonly called Reſolve and Commonwealth money, by the 1ſt day of *January*, which will be in the year of our Lord 1789, and the emiſſions of *April* 29th, 1780, *June* 1ſt, 1780, *April* 7th, 1781, together with the intereſt notes of *March* 21ſt, 1783, by the 1ſt day of *January*, which will be in the year of our Lord 1790, and that all bills of the emiſſions aforeſaid not then brought in for payment ſhall be for ever after irredeemable."

It was moved by Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*, to ſtrike out the words—" *except a ſum of that part of the bills of* April *7th*, 1781, *ſufficient to anſwer the payments charged thereon*;"—and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Evans*, are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *John Salter*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Anthony Wayne*,
9 *Robert Ralſton*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Thomas Bull*,
12 *John Hannum*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
15 *Joſeph Work*,
16 *Henry Miller*,
17 *Michael Schmyſer*,
18 *Philip Gartner*,
19 *Joſeph Lilly*,
20 *David M'Clellan*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *John Clark*,
4 *Arthur Erwin*,
5 *John Smith*,
6 *Joſeph Thomas*,
7 *Robert Smith*,
8 *Alexander Lowrey*,
9 *David M'Conaughy*,
10 *Robert Whitehill*,
11 *John Carothers*,
12 *Frederick Watts*,
13 *John Creigh*,
14 *Abraham Lincoln*,
15 *Nicholas Lutz*,
16 *Henry Spyker*,
17 *Philip Kreemer*,
18 *David Davis*,
19 *Baltſer Gehr*,
20 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
21 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
22 *Peter Burkhalter*,
23 *Robert Brown*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *Frederick Antes*,
26 *Samuel Dale*,
27 *William Todd*,
28 *William Findley*,
29 *John M'Dowell*,
30 *John Smilie*,
31 *James M'Calmont*,
32 *Abraham Smith*,
33 *John Rhea*,
34 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
35 *Robert Loller*,
36 *Peter Richards*,
37 *Thomas Rees*,
38 *Adam Orth*,
39 *Robert Clark*,
40 *David Krouſe*,
41 *Daniel Bradley*.

So it was carried in the negative, and the paragraph adopted.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 8th, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Maryland *and* Virginia *to lay out* "*and improve a road within the limits of this ſtate, between the waters of the* "*river* Patowmack *and of the river* Ohio," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on Ways and Means, poſtponed this forenoon:

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And in order more effectually to relieve theſe creditors, your committee propoſe, that in future the intereſt be paid half yearly at the treaſury, in the ſame manner, and under the ſame regulations, as are provided in and by the aforeſaid act of the 16th of *March, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five,* and that a bill be brought in for enabling the poſſeſſors of all ſuch certificates as aforeſaid to receive the intereſt thereof at the end of every ſix months, as the ſame becomes due."

It was moved by Mr. *Wayne*, ſeconded by Mr. *Ralſton*,

To add, after the words "*one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five,*" the words "*except as to the order of payment, which ſhall in future give a preference to the payment of intereſt due on the certificates iſſued to the officers and ſoldiers of the late* Pennſylvania *line.*"

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *A. Smith*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *Anthony Wayne,*
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *Thomas Bull,*
9 *Robert Smith,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Jonathan Morris,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*

YEAS.

13 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
14 *Joſeph Work,*
15 *Henry Miller,*
16 *David M'Conaughy,*
17 *Michael Schmyſer,*
18 *Philip Gartner,*
19 *Joſeph Lilly,*
20 *Henry Tyſon,*
21 *David M'Clellan,*
22 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
23 *Thomas Rees,*
24 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *William Robinſon,* jun.
4 *John Clark,*
5 *Arthur Erwin,*
6 *John Smith,*
7 *Joſeph Thomas,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*

NAYS.

9 *John Carothers,*
10 *Frederick Watts,*
11 *John Creigh,*
12 *Abraham Lincoln,*
13 *Henry Spyker,*
14 *Philip Kreemer,*
15 *David Davis,*
16 *Baltſer Gehr,*

NAYS.

17 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
18 *Peter Burkhalter*,
19 *Robert Brown*,
20 *John Piper*,
21 *Frederick Antes*,
22 *Samuel Dale*,
23 *William Todd*,
24 *William Findley*,
25 *John M‘Dowell*,

NAYS.

26 *John Smilie*,
27 *James M‘Calmont*,
28 *Abraham Smith*,
29 *John Rhea*,
30 *Robert Loller*,
31 *Peter Richards*,
32 *Adam Orth*,
33 *Robert Clark*,
34 *David Krouſe*.

So it was carried in the negative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The Houſe took into conſideration the reſolution of the 17th inſtant, which is in the following words, *viz.*

“ *Reſolved*, That this Houſe will on *Friday* next cloſe their preſent ſeſſion.”

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe now cloſe the preſent ſeſſion?”—It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 24, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from thirteen of the Juſtices of the Peace in and for the county of *Bucks* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may not be removed from *New-town* to *Doyle*'s-*Town*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*,” was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ Provided nevertheleſs, That no perſon or perſons who have ſo as aforeſaid done or committed any of the ſaid felonies, riots, treſpaſſes, offences, crimes, contempts or miſdemeanors, and who ſhall not on the next ſurrender himſelf or themſelves to one or more of the Juſtices of the Peace in and for the county wherein ſuch offender or offenders do reſpectively reſide, and enter into a recognizance or recognizances to this commonwealth, with one ſufficient ſurety for each of the ſaid offenders, in the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, conditioned for his or their keeping the peace, and being of good behaviour for the term of twelve months, ſhall receive any benefit or advantage of or from the ſaid pardon or indemnity, or be held or adjudged to be pardoned or indemnified by, under or by virtue of this act.”

It was moved by Mr. *Lowrey*, ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill*,

To fill up the blank with the words “ *firſt day of* June;”

Which was determined in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

To fill up the ſaid blank with the words “ *firſt day of* May.”

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe agree to fill up the blank accordingly?”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *J. Smith*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Samuel Foulke,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Alexander Lowrey,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *John Carothers,*
7 *John Creigh,*
8 *Abraham Lincoln,*
9 *Henry Spyker,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*
11 *Baltſer Gehr,*
12 *John Piper,*
13 *Frederick Antes,*

YEAS.

14 *Samuel Dale,*
15 *William Findley,*
16 *John M'Dowell,*
17 *John Smilie,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Abraham Smith,*
20 *John Rhea,*
21 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
22 *Adam Orth,*
23 *Robert Clark,*
24 *David Krouſe,*
25 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Arthur Erwin,*
10 *Anthony Wayne,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Thomas Bull,*
14 *John Hannum,*
15 *Robert Smith,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Jonathan Morris,*
18 *Samuel J. Atlee,*

NAYS.

19 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *Henry Miller,*
22 *David M'Conaughy,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *Philip Gartner,*
25 *Joſeph Lilly,*
26 *Henry Tyſon,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Frederick Watts,*
29 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *Peter Burkhalter,*
32 *Robert Brown,*
33 *William Todd,*
34 *Robert Loller,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *Thomas Rees.*

So it was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Loller,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rhea,*

To fill up the blank in the foregoing clauſe with the words "*fiſteenth day* "*of* April."

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to fill up the blank accordingly?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Wayne,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *William Robinſon*, jun.
4 *John Clark,*
5 *Samuel Foulke,*
6 *John Smith,*
7 *Alexander Lowrey,*
8 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
9 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

10 *David M'Clellan,*
11 *Robert Whitehill,*
12 *John Carothers,*
13 *Frederick Watts,*
14 *John Creigh,*
15 *Abraham Lincoln,*
16 *Henry Spyker,*
17 *Philip Kreemer,*
18 *David Davis,*

YEAS.

19 *Baltſer Gehr,*
20 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21 *Frederick Antes,*
22 *Samuel Dale,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John M‘Dowell,*
25 *James M‘Calmont,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *John Rhea,*
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
29 *Robert Loller,*
30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *David Krouſe,*
34 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *Arthur Erwin,*
7 *Anthony Wayne,*
8 *Robert Ralſton,*
9 *James Moore,*
10 *Thomas Bull,*
11 *John Hannum,*
12 *Robert Smith,*
13 *Samuel Evans,*
14 *Jonathan Morris,*
15 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
16 *Henry Miller,*
17 *David M‘Conaughy,*
18 *Michael Schmyſer,*
19 *Philip Gartner,*
20 *Joſeph Lilly,*
21 *Henry Tyſon,*
22 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
23 *Peter Burkhalter,*
24 *Robert Brown,*
25 *John Piper,*
26 *William Todd,*
27 *John Smilie,*
28 *Thomas Rees.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe was then adopted.

The ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to " encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional " duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with " them," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The ſtanding committee, appointed *November* 30th, to draught inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, reported a draught of inſtructions, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *M‘Conaughy* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of the ſugar refiners in and near the city of *Philadelphia,* read *December* 19th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

Remonſtrances and petitions from a number of ſhipwrights, and other tradeſmen concerned in building and fitting of ſhips and veſſels for ſea, were read, ſetting forth, that the buſineſs of ſhip-building has always been conſidered by every commercial nation of the utmoſt importance to their welfare, and has ever received the encouragement and ſupport of all wiſe legiſlatures; that this buſineſs has been carried on in this ſtate to as great perfection, in reſpect to ſhips of a middling ſize, as in any age or country whatever; that the act lately paſſed, impoſing a tonnage duty of one Dollar per ton on all ſhips owned in part or in the whole by foreigners, is peculiarly injurious at this time, inaſmuch as it diſcourages their employing the petitioners in building ſhips for them, which has been and would continue to be a ſource of wealth to the country, if not checked; that permitting ſhips built in this ſtate, let the owners be who they may, to enter this port freely, without paying foreign duties, would tend greatly to encourage foreigners to build their ſhips here; that if one half the duty impoſed on foreign cordage imported by foreigners, ſolely for the fitting out ſhips built here by their orders, were to be withdrawn, it would add to ſuch encouragement; therefore praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and afford ſome aſſiſtance to ſo uſeful a branch of buſineſs; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Robinſon,* to report thereon.

The letter from Dr. *Henry Moyes,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, to take order thereon.

The letter from *Thomas Paine,* Eſquire, read *December* 20th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

The draught of inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, read this forenoon, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

In ASSEMBLY, *December* 24, 1785.

Gentlemen,

AS it is in contemplation of the Houſe to ſettle with all poſſible expedition the old accounts of this ſtate with the United States, and to pay off arrearages, it becomes of importance that our treaſurer be poſſeſſed of the ſum of *thirty-two thouſand four hundred* and *twenty-nine pounds fifteen ſhillings* and *ſeven-pence,* now lying in the Continental Loan Office. This ſum is in ſtate paper, emitted according to an act of the legiſlature paſſed in *April* 1781, and is part of 390,000 dollars exchanged by the late Superintendant of Finance, for the like ſum of new continental, iſſued in purſuance of the reſolutions of Congreſs of *March* 1780. This money is totally uſeleſs to Congreſs at preſent. Wherefore it is the ſenſe of the Houſe, that you ſhould agree with Congreſs, that on the receipt thereof the amount be paſſed to the debit of *Pennſylvania* in the old accounts. The encloſed certificate of the Continental Loan-Officer will ſhew the nature of the tranſaction to have been what is above mentioned, and any further elucidation which may be required, may doubtleſs be found in the accounts kept at the treaſury of the United States.

The Honorable the Delegates
of Pennſylvania.

Ordered, That the Speaker ſign the ſame.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of *Andrew Henderſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on ways and means, poſtponed yeſterday, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And whereas the legiſlature of *Pennſylvania*, attentive to the creditors of the United States, who are citizens of this commonwealth, hath already begun a ſyſtem of finance for the relief of the creditors of this ſtate, in which ſyſtem an emiſſion of bills of credit, to the amount of *one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds*, conſtitutes a principal part: And whereas the iſſuing of the aforeſaid facilities or intereſt certificates to the citizens of this ſtate, who are provided for by the act of the 16th of *March* laſt, entituled " *An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the debts of this ſtate*," would interfere with and derange the ſaid ſyſtem: To obviate which, it is propoſed that a ſubſcription be opened at the office of the Comptroller-General of this ſtate, to receive on loan to the commonwealth, all ſuch certificates for debts due by the United States to citizens of this ſtate, the intereſt whereof were made payable at the fœderal loan-office in *Philadelphia* by the act of the 16th day of *March*, 1785, laſt recited; and that every of the ſubſcribers (within a time to be limited for the propoſed loan) receive from the ſaid Comptroller-General a certificate, equivalent in value, in lieu of each certificate of the United States which he or ſhe ſhall ſo ſubſcribe; the ſame to bear intereſt from the date of the certificate loaned to the commonwealth; *and that the faith of the ſtate be pledged to the ſubſcribers aforeſaid*, as well for the payment of the intereſt half yearly accruing, as for the final redemption of all certificates which ſhall be ſo iſſued by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate.

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To add, after the words " *and that the faith of the ſtate be pledged to the ſubſcribers aforeſaid*," the words " *and that funds be provided for that purpoſe*."

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Wayne*, and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *John Salter*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Anthony Wayne*,
9 *Robert Ralſton*,
10 *John Hannum*,
11 *Robert Smith*,
12 *Samuel Evans*,
13 *Jonathan Morris*,
14 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

15 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
16 *Joſeph Work*,
17 *Henry Miller*,
18 *Michael Schmyſer*,
19 *Philip Gartner*,
20 *Joſeph Lilly*,
21 *Henry Tyſon*,
22 *David M'Clellan*,
23 *Frederick Watts*,
24 *Baltſer Gehr*,
25 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
26 *Thomas Rees*,
27 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *Samuel Foulke,*
5 *John Smith,*
6 *Joſeph Thomas,*
7 *James Moore,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*
9 *John Carothers,*
10 *John Creigh,*
11 *Abraham Lincoln,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
16 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
17 *Peter Burkhalter,*

NAYS.

18 *Robert Brown,*
19 *John Piper,*
20 *Frederick Antes,*
21 *Samuel Dale,*
22 *William Todd,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John M'Dowell,*
25 *John Smilie,*
26 *James M'Calmont,*
27 *Abraham Smith,*
28 *John Rhea,*
29 *Robert Loller,*
30 *Peter Richards,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *David Krouſe.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the ſaid report, having been fully debated by paragraphs, was adopted as follows, *viz.*

THE Committee on Ways and Means beg leave to report,——That from the papers referred to them, it appears that the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their act of the 27th of September, 1785, have required the ſum of three millions of dollars, to be paid by the ſaid ſtates on or before the 1ſt day of May, 1786, and have aſſigned to them ſeverally their reſpective quotas thereof. Theſe quotas not being apportioned according to the rule of the confederation, are to be reviſed and equalized, when Congreſs ſhall be poſſeſſed of ſufficient documents for that purpoſe.

That the amount ſo called for is appropriated to the ſupport of the fœderal government and the diſcharge of the intereſt due on the foreign loans to the end of the year 1785, and to diſcharge the intereſt of the domeſtic debt till the end of the year 1784; which, with the aid of a part of the Dutch loan not otherwiſe appropriated, and the arrears due on former exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, will be ſufficient for the aforeſaid purpoſes, according to the eſtimations contained in the ſaid reſolutions.

That it is of vaſt importance to the preſent reputation, and future ſecurity of theſe ſtates, fully and ſpeedily to adopt the ſaid requiſitions. Wherefore your committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That this ſtate do make proviſion for diſcharging four hundred and ten thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-eight dollars, being the quota of Pennſylvania in the requiſition of the United States of September 27th, 1785; and that a bill be brought in for that purpoſe.

The Committee beg leave further to report,——That a punctual diſcharge of the contracts and obligations of the ſtate; a ſtrict adherence to the juſt fulfilment of their promiſes; a due attention to the creditors of Pennſylvania, and the citizens of this ſtate who are creditors of the United States; and the proviſion of ſufficient funds for relieving their paſt, removing their preſent, and preventing their future diſtreſſes;—are objects of high import to the dignity, peace and happineſs of the commonwealth, both now and hereafter; and that humanity, juſtice, honor, and the intereſt of the ſtate, call aloud for the attention of the legiſlature to ſo important a ſubject.

Under a ſenſe of this, your Committee have directed their enquiries to find out, and to ſtate, the debts that are due; the promiſes and obligations of the ſtate heretofore entered into, which ought to be inviolably preſerved and fulfilled, and without which it is in vain to expect confidence and reliance on future engagements.

They have alſo inveſtigated the revenues and reſources of the commonwealth, and the proviſion neceſſary and proper to be made for diſcharging the public debt.

I. IN the years 1775 and 1776 an emiſſion of bills of credit, commonly called *reſolve money,* was iſſued by the ſtate. The amount, - - -		£ 200,000 0 0
Of this there hath been paid into the treaſury, and there burnt and deſtroyed at different times, - - -	£ 44,936 16 6	
There is now in the treaſury ready to be burnt, -	33,706 11 1	
So that there is due by the ſtate, which remains to be redeemed, thereof, - - - -	121,356 12 5	
		200,000 0 0

II. BY

I. BY a law paſſed 20th March, 1777, 200,000*l.* in bills of credit were directed to be ſtruck; all of which were iſſued, - - -				£ 200,000	0	0
Of this there hath been paid into the treaſury, and there burnt and deſtroyed, - - - - -	£ 54,941	16	6			
There is now in the treaſury ready to be burnt, -	36,209	6	1			
Which leaves a balance due by the ſtate, to be redeemed, of	108,848	17	5			
				200,000	0	0

The bills which compoſe the two foregoing balances, to be redeemed by the ſtate, have long ſince ceaſed to paſs as a circulating medium. The rate of exchange, or relative value between them and the bills of credit emitted per act paſſed 7th April, 1781, was declared by the authority of the ſtate, for the laſt time, in the month of May, 1781, to be as 175 of the former for one of the latter. At this rate conſiderable ſums have been exchanged at the treaſury, according to a reſolution of Aſſembly paſſed 13th June, 1781, which continues to operate.

By an act of Aſſembly paſſed 13th April, 1782, the ſaid bills are, together with other bills therein mentioned, made receivable in the payment of the arrearages of the continental money taxes. By continuing theſe means, the whole thereof may be redeemed.

II. THE quota of Pennſylvania, in the requiſitions of Congreſs for ſinking the continental bills of credit, was		*Dol.* 29,900,000
Of which there hath been paid to the continental loan-officer by the treaſurer of the ſtate, - - - -	28,140,953	
There is now in the ſtate treaſury, ready to be paid as above,	269 200	
Balance due, to be paid to the United States, - -	1,489,847	
		29,900,000

The value of the *continental bills of credit* is ſimilar to that of the *reſolve* and *commonwealth money* before mentioned. They are alſo made receivable in payment of the arrears of taxes due in continental money per act paſſed 13th April, 1782, and may be exchanged at the treaſury, according to reſolution of Aſſembly of 13th June, 1781, for ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, at the rate of 175; and conſiderable ſums have been and continue to be ſo exchanged.

Payment of the arrearages of the continental money taxes ſhould be compelled, which, together with that received by exchange, will bring into the treaſury a ſum of ſaid bills more than ſufficient to diſcharge the aforeſaid balance, in which, and in the *reſolve* and *commonwealth money* aforeſaid, payment will be preferred, in as much as thoſe arrearages not paid in the ſaid bills muſt be diſcharged in what is more valuable, viz. in ſtate money, or in ſpecie at 75 for one, according to law paſſed 13th April, 1782.

Whatever ſum of the continental money may be paid in taxes, beyond the balance aforeſaid due to the United States, will remain in the treaſury, and obtain for the ſtate a credit at ſettlement with the United States for the value thereof, at whatſoever exchange Congreſs may fix upon continental bills of credit.

The ſums of ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, which may be neceſſary for exchanging at the treaſury the *reſolve*, *commonwealth* and *continental money*, may be obtained out of the payments of the continental money taxes, in that ſpecies of money, agreeably to act paſſed 13th April, 1782, and ſo much thereof as may be neceſſary ſhould be appropriated to that purpoſe. The operation of the taxes will probably prevent much from being exchanged in that way, the difference of the value in favour of thoſe who pay it in taxes is as 75 to 175 for one.

IV. AGREEABLY to act of 25th March, 1780, there was emitted and iſſued in bills of credit, dated 29th April, 1780, bearing intereſt at 5 per cent. -				£ 100,000	0	0
Of this there hath been redeemed, burnt and deſtroyed, -	98,375	0	0			
There is now in the treaſury, - - -	521	5	0			
Leaves a balance to be exchanged for ſpecie of - -	1,103	15	0			
				100,000	0	0

The monies ariſing from ſales of city lots will be amply ſufficient to redeem the above balance. The bills were due, both principal and intereſt, on the firſt day of June, 1784, ſhortly after which the treaſurer of the ſtate, by public notice, called upon all the poſſeſſors of ſaid bills to apply and receive payment; and accordingly hath paid and yet continues to diſcharge the principal and intereſt to applicants who poſſeſs thoſe bills.

V. BY act of June 1ſt, 1780, in conformity to a reſolution of Congreſs of the 18th of March preceding, there was emitted on the faith of this ſtate in bills of credit, bearing intereſt at five per cent. per annum, which was guaranteed by the United States in caſe of the inability of the ſtate by the events of war, -		*Dol.* 1,445,000
Of this there is now in the treaſury of the ſtate, - -	944,190	
In the continental loan-office, to be paid when the balance due by Pennſylvania on the ſinking fund ſhall be diſcharged, -	51,200	
In ſaid loan-office, which is due to Pennſylvania, for a like ſum paid by this ſtate in bills of April 7th, 1781, and ſubſtituted in lieu of the other, - - -	390,000	
Balance yet in circulation, of which a part (ſay 1-8th) is ſtamped, "*one year's intereſt paid,*" and the reſidue is on intereſt at five per cent. from the firſt of June, 1780, - - -	109,610	
		1,495,000

The faith of the commonwealth is pledged, that the holder ſhall be entitled to receive the principal and intereſt from the ſtate in ſpecie; and they will be due on the 31ſt of December, 1786.

The poſſeſſors are now entitled to have the intereſt paid them at the ſtate treaſury *thus:* they give up the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, and receive in exchange therefor, a ſum in the bills of April 7th, 1781, equal to the amount of the principal of the bills delivered, and the intereſt then due thereupon.

The bills are receivable alſo in payment of the arrears of ſtate-money taxes, but as the bills of April 7th, 1781, are likewiſe received therein, and are not ſo ſoon due as the former, payment in the latter will be preferred, being more attainable. Wherefore it will be neceſſary, in order to preſerve the faith of the ſtate, to provide and appropriate a ſum for redeeming in ſpecie, when due, the principal and intereſt of ſuch of the foregoing bills as ſhall not be taken up by the preceding means, for which purpoſe there will be neceſſary about 40,000 *l.* to be appropriated out of the 150,000 *l.* loan-office.

VI. BY an act of Aſſembly paſſed 7th April, 1781, it was directed that 500,000*l.* ſhould be emitted in bills of credit.

Of which there was ſtruck, - - - - -	£ 486,500 0 0

The ſum of 146,250*l.* of this was ſubſtituted in the room of an equal ſum of the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, and paid to the continental loan-office, to be ſubject to the draughts of the United States, being the balance of the four tenths of the one twentieth part of the ſinking fund requiſition.

Of ſaid 146,250*l.* a part, viz. *l.* 32,429 15 7, yet remains in the continental loan-office aforeſaid not iſſued. Your committee beg leave to recommend that application be made to Congreſs, by the delegates of this ſtate, for an order upon the loan-officer aforeſaid, that the ſaid *l.* 32,429 15 7 be paid into the treaſury of this ſtate. And in order to manifeſt the juſtice of Pennſylvania, by agreeing to account for her own bills of credit as for ſpecie, that ſhe be debited with the ſame at *par* in account current with the United States; and as ſaid bills are uſeleſs to them, there is no doubt but that this will be agreed to.

The whole ſum emitted as aforeſaid, - - - - -				£ 486,500 0 0
Of which there hath been redeemed and burnt, - -	145,400	0	0	
Yet in the continental loan-office, to be redeemed as above, -	32,429	15	7	
In the ſtate treaſury, - - - - -	236,407	7	7	
Yet in circulation, to be redeemed, - - -	72,262	16	10	
				486,500 0 0

That the balances due on the ſtate money taxes ſhall remain appropriated to the redemption of the ſaid bills, and that from and after the 10th day of April, which will be in the year of our Lord 1787, the poſſeſſors of all ſuch bills of the emiſſion aforeſaid as ſhall then remain unredeemed, ſhall be entitled to receive the full amount thereof in ſpecie at the treaſury, and ſo much of the ſtate money taxes as ſhall be diſcharged in ſpecie ſhall be applied to ſaid purpoſe.

And whereas by an act paſſed the 19th day of December, 1780, it was directed that the ſum of *l.* 93,640 10 0 ſhould be annually raiſed, levied and paid, for ſix ſucceeding years, in *the bills of credit of June 1ſt,* 1780, and (by an act paſſed January 31ſt, 1783) in *the emiſſion of April 7th,* 1781, for the purpoſe of redeeming the ſaid bills. And whereas the redemption of the ſaid bills is fully provided for by the taxes heretofore laid, and the other means already provided; therefore your committee report, that a bill be prepared for repealing ſuch parts of the aforeſaid act of December 19th, 1780, as relate to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to be laid.

		Dollars.
VII. IN purſuance of an act paſſed the 21ſt of March, 1783, there were intereſt notes prepared and iſſued to the amount of - - - - -		166,571$\frac{45}{90}$
Of this there hath been redeemed and burnt, - - -	146,555	
There is now in the treaſury ready to be burnt, - - -	14,405¾	
Balance yet to be redeemed, -	5,610¾	
		166,571$\frac{45}{90}$

Note, The ſum directed to be printed in theſe notes was, - -		300,000
From which take the ſum iſſued, - - -	166,571$\frac{45}{90}$	
And there remains in the treaſury to be deſtroyed, which was not counterſigned or pefected, - - - - -	133,428$\frac{45}{90}$	
		300,000

Agreeably to the law, the foregoing ſum of 5,610¾ dol. equal to *l.* 2,103 16 10 in intereſt notes, was due the 1ſt of July, 1784, and ſince that period the holders have had it in their power to be paid in ſpecie; at the treaſnry, or to pay it as coin in diſcharge of taxes due in ſpecie, the ſame proviſion ought to be continued, wherefore the ſum of *l.* 1,103 16 10 aforeſaid, of the arrears of taxes due in ſpecie, and laid in the year 1783, is now ſubject to ſaid appropriation.

Order ſhould be taken that the above notes, and all the preceding bills of credit of this ſtate, in the treaſury, of every denomination, ſtruck before the year 1785, *ſhould be burnt and deſtroyed, except a ſum of that part of the bills of April 7th,* 1781, *ſufficient to anſwer the payments charged thereon,* and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill directing all perſons poſſeſſed or that may be poſſeſſed of the bills of credit of this ſtate aforeſaid, emitted before the year 1785, to bring in the ſame for redemption and payment, *according to the manner herein before preſcribed,* on or before the following periods, viz. thoſe bills thereof emitted in the years 1775, 1776 and 1777, commonly called *reſolve* and *commonwealth money,* by the 1ſt of January, which will be in the year of our Lord 1789, and the *emiſſions* of April 29th, 1780, June 1ſt, 1780, April 7th, 1781, together with the *intereſt notes* of March 21ſt, 1783, by the 1ſt day of January, which will be in the year of our Lord 1790, and that all bills of the emiſſions aforeſaid not then brought in for payment ſhall be for ever after irredeemable.

VIII. BY an act paſſed 16th March, 1785, it was directed that bills of credit ſhould be emitted to the amount of - - - -	£ 150,000 0 0

The faith of the ſtate hath been pledged for the reception of theſe bills in all public dues, and for their final redemption at certain periods, and the credit and intereſt of the commonwealth are at ſtake, for the ſacred fulfilment thereof.

By the ſaid act it is directed that the ſum of 20,000*l.* ſhall be cancelled in the year 1786, and a like ſum of the ſaid bills in every ſucceeding year, until the whole ſhall be deſtroyed, wherefore that ſum annually muſt be reſerved out of the taxes, impoſts, and other dues appropriated for that purpoſe, until the end of the year 1792, and in the next enſuing year, which will be that of our Lord 1793, the ſum of 10,000*l.* ſhall be thus reſerved, to complete the redemption of the whole ſum emitted.

Although the above is a debt to be provided for, yet the bills of credit form alſo a preſent revenue, and paſſing as a circulating medium and enlarging the funds, releaſes the commonwealth at once from ſo much more of her debts, operating in her favor to the full amount of the annual intereſt of the bills of credit thus in circulation.

IX. BY acts of April 1ſt, 1784, and March 30th, 1785, proviſion is made for iſſuing certificates, bearing intereſt from the 1ſt of July, 1783, for all debts againſt the ſtate, the depreciation debt, which is otherwiſe provided for, excepted.

Certificates have been accordingly iſſued to amount of -	93,155 6 11	
Whereof there hath been redeemed by the ſale of the lands of this ſtate to the 1ſt of November, 1785, excluſive of intereſt thereon,	17,616 11 5	
		75,538 15 6
There are debts due on accounts yet unſettled, for which certificates as aforeſaid remain to be iſſued; theſe, according to the beſt eſtimation that can at preſent be made thereof, will (including the claims againſt forfeited eſtates) amount to	133,679 12 2¾	
Of this will be diſcharged by militia fines incurred, appropriated to pay militia ſervices, - - -	31,500 0 0	
		102,179 12 2¾
Amount, -		£ 177,718 7 8¾

In the act paſſed March 16th, 1785, it is provided that the yearly intereſt on the certificates for the above debt ſhall be paid out of the taxes and impoſt duties, and proviſion is therein alſo made for diſcharging the arrears due. The operations of this law have commenced, and the ſecond year's intereſt, due the 1ſt of July, 1785, is now paying agreeably thereunto. At the ſame time the land-office operates as a certain and productive fund for diſcharging the principal, and the intereſt payable is thereby annually leſſened.

Both of theſe means ſhould be continued for two important reaſons: 1ſt, Becauſe they are ~~uſeful~~, good and juſt in themſelves; 2dly, Becauſe they cannot be relinquiſhed without committing a breach of public faith.

And in order more effectually to relieve theſe creditors, your committee propoſe, that in future the intereſt be paid half yearly at the treaſury, in the ſame manner and under the ſame regulations, as are provided in and by the aforeſaid act of the 16th of March, 1785, *and that a bill be brought in for enabling the poſſeſſors of all ſuch certificates as aforeſaid ~~to~~ receive the intereſt thereof, at the end of every ſix months, as the ſame becomes due.*

The annual intereſt of *l.* 177,718 7 8¾ is - -	£ 10,663	2	0
Together with which the intereſt due till the 1ſt of January, 1786, thereon, amounts to about - - - - - -	16,492	13	7
	£ 27,155	15	7

Your committee are of opinion, therefore, that this ſum of the monies ariſing from taxes and from the duties on imports ſhould be appropriated to the payment of the intereſt aforeſaid, until the 1ſt of January, 1786. 27,155 16 7

And that the ſum of 10,600*l.* of the monies ariſing from ſaid duties and taxes, annually afterwards be appropriated to diſcharge the intereſt accruing, until the redemption of the principal.

The ſum ſo appropriated will be more than ſufficient; and the exceſs thereof, on account of the redemption of the certificates in the land-office, will be every year increaſing; ſuch exceſs therefore ſhould be appropriated to other exigencies of government, and to ſinking the principal of the debt.

X. BY ſundry laws, paſſed the 18th December, 1780, April 10th, 1781, October 1ſt, 1781, April 13th, 1782, April 8th and September 22d, 1785, the depreciation of the pay of the Pennſylvania line, ſtate navy and military hoſpital, from the 1ſt of January, 1777, till 1ſt Auguſt, 1780, hath been directed to be ſettled, and certificates iſſued therefor, bearing intereſt from the 10th of April, 1781.

The amount of theſe accounts ſettled is - - - - -				£ 549,706	6	7
Of which there hath been paid in ſtate money, being on account of the one third part payable according to law, - -	141,408	7	4			
Redeemed by the ſales of forfeited eſtates, excluſive of the intereſt,	45,994	6	5			
Redeemed by the land-office from the 1ſt July, 1784, till the 1ſt of November, 1785, - - -	37,145	17	7½			
Yet to be redeemed, ſave what have been received in the land-office ſince the 1ſt November, 1785, - - -	325,157	15	2½			
				549,706	6	7
Balance, -				£ 325,157	15	2½
To this balance are to be added ſundry accounts yet unſettled, which by eſtimation will amount to - - - - - -				77,878	14	11
Amount, -				£ 403,036	10	1½

According to an act paſſed the 21ſt day of March, 1783, the original poſſeſſors of the above certificates, provided no alienation thereof had ever been made, (the ſame to be aſcertained by certain forms) were entitled to receive at the treaſury, on the 10th of April following, one year's intereſt thereon, and one year's intereſt on the 10th day of April in every ſucceeding year; and by a ſupplement paſſed the 20th day of September, 1783, the ſame was extended to the aſſignees or poſſeſſors of all ſuch certificates as had or ſhould have one year's intereſt previouſly paid to the original owner. The revenue ariſing from the exciſe on ſpirituous liquors, or ſo much thereof as ſhould be neceſſary, was thereby appropriated as a fund for ſaid purpoſes. And, by a clauſe in the law paſſed March 16th, 1785, the whole of the exciſe aforeſaid is appropriated for diſcharging as well the arrears due, as the intereſt annually accruing.

The amount unalienated, upon which one year's intereſt hath been paid as aforeſaid, - - - -	£ 210,626	17	8			
The unalienated part of the accounts not ſettled may be eſtimated at two thirds thereof, ſay, - - - -	51,919	3	4			
Principal ſum upon which the intereſt is payable, - - -				£ 262,546	1	0

The

The intereſt due and to become due till 10th of April, 1786, viz.		
Five years intereſt upon *l.* 51,919 3 4 from 10th of April, 1781, till 10th of April aforeſaid, - - - - - -	15,575 10 0	
Two years intereſt upon *l.* 210,626 17 8 from the 10th of April, 1784, till 10th of April aforeſaid, - -	25,275 4 6	
		40,850 14 6
Deduct one year's intereſt, payable, according to law, out of the exciſe, on the 10th of April next, - - -		15,752 15 3
And the reſidue is, - - -		£ 25,097 19 3

Your committee propoſe, that the aforeſaid ſum of *l.* 25,097 19 3 ſhould be appropriated out of the taxes and duties on imports due before the 1ſt November, 1784, for the purpoſe of diſcharging the arrearages aforeſaid, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe, and for paying off, from and after the 10th of April next, the year's intereſt which is due upon the depreciation certificates, whereon intereſt was annually heretofore payable according to law, from the 10th of April, 1784, till the 10th of April, 1785, and that proviſion be alſo made therein for paying, in half yearly payments, the intereſt upon the ſaid certificates, from and after the 10th day of April, and from and after the 10th day of October in every ſucceeding year, until the principal ſhall be finally redeemed.

Having thus taken a review of the proviſion that hath been made for paying the intereſt, and propoſed ſuch aids as appear proper; we have turned our attention to the redemption and final diſcharge of the principal, as well as the intereſt of the depreciation debt.

The means at preſent in operation are,

1ſt. The land-office; where they are receivable, principal and intereſt, alienated and unalienated, agreeably to law paſſed April 1ſt, 1784, and in common with certain other public ſecurities, in the purchaſe of lands ſold by the ſtate. By this means there hath been redeemed between July 1ſt, 1784, and November 1ſt, 1785, *l.* 37,145 17 7½ principal, and *l.* 8,447 7 2½ intereſt. This forms a very reſpectable ſinking fund, and although it is uncertain how productive it may be in future, in this kind eſpecially, yet, conſidering that the land-office was not opened until 1ſt May, 1785, for the ſale of lands within the late Indian purchaſe, it may be computed to bring in 28,000*l.* per annum in ſaid certificates.

2d. By act of 18th December, 1780, all the forfeited eſtates, not before ſold or appropriated, were then appropriated as a fund for redeeming the depreciation certificates. In this way there hath been *l.* 45,994 6 5 principal, and *l.* 1,334 8 6 intereſt, redeemed and cancelled. There remains yet forfeited property to a conſiderable amount, which according to law ought to be forthwith ſold for the purpoſes to which they are appropriated.

3d. That tract of country lying on the waters of the Ohio and Allegheny rivers, deſcribed in an act of aſſembly paſſed 12th March, 1783, which is thereby appropriated and directed to be ſurveyed and ſold; in payment whereof depreciation certificates and ſpecie, or the bills of credit, of the laſt emiſſion alone, are by law receivable.

In addition to the above, the following property, we apprehend, ſhould be immediately ſold, under the direction of the Supreme Executive Council, for the redemption of ſaid certificates, viz. the manſion-houſe and lots contiguous thereto in the city of Philadelphia, late the eſtate of Joſeph Galloway, forfeited to the commonwealth, and appropriated by act paſſed the 18th March, 1779, and to be applied to the uſe of the preſident of this ſtate for the time being, or to ſuch other uſes as the General Aſſembly ſhould thereafter direct and appoint. The committee of Ways and Means of a former Aſſembly reported, "That a committee ſhould be appointed to bring in a bill, enabling the Supreme Executive Council to ſell the ſaid houſe and lots;" which report was adopted on the 15th of September, 1784, but no law hath yet been paſſed to this end: Wherefore, your committee beg leave to propoſe, that a bill be brought in for the purpoſes of ſelling the meſſuages, tenements and lots aforeſaid, and that depreciation and the funded certificates, with the intereſt thereon, and ſpecie, or the bills of credit of this ſtate (of the laſt emiſſion only) be receivable in payment.

Agreeably to act paſſed 10th April, 1781, the unappropriated city lots were directed to be ſold for the redemption of the bills of credit of April 29th, 1780. There is in the treaſury a balance of above 500*l.* on account of the monies received for ſales aforeſaid, and there are ſeveral purchaſers who have not yet fully paid, which will produce a ſufficient ſum for diſcharging the aforeſaid appropriation. There will afterwards remain a conſiderable number of thoſe lots the property of the ſtate, which have reverted by the non-payment of the purchaſers and other cauſes. Your committee alſo propoſe, that a bill be brought in, directing that theſe lots which yet remain the property of the ſtate be ſold, and that depreciation and the funded certificates, with the intereſt thereon, and ſpecie, or the bills of credit of this ſtate, of the laſt emiſſion only, be receivable in payment.

XI. THE grant to the late proprietaries of Pennſylvania, by act paſſed November 27th, 1779, 130,000*l.* ſterling money of Great-Britain, equal in Pennſylvania currency to - - - - - - - -		£ 216,666 13 4

It was ſtipulated on the part of this ſtate, that this ſum ſhall be paid by annual inſtalments of not leſs than 15,000*l.* nor more than 20,000*l.* ſterling, and that the firſt payment ſhould be made within one year after the termination of the late war with Great-Britain.

By an act paſſed February 9th, 1785, the ſum of 15,000*l.* ſterling, was directed to be paid in Engliſh guineas at 21*ſ.* and Spaniſh milled dollars at 4/6 each, equal in Pennſylvania currency to	£ 25,000 0 0	
The intereſt from September 3d, 1784, the time payment ſhould have been made thereof, until the 1ſt May, 1785, being 10 days after the laſt publication of the offer of payment by Council; from which time according to the ſaid act all intereſt thereon ceaſes,	991 13 4	
		25,991 13 4
The ſecond annual payment was alſo due on the third of September laſt, which, according to act paſſed March 16th, 1785, was directed to be paid as above,		25,000 0 0
		50,991 13 4
The funds provided for the diſcharge of the two firſt articles, are the monies ariſing from the ſale of the barracks, which amount to	8,347 19 0	
Excluſive of a part yet unſold, 22 lots which may produce about 2,500*l.* but ſay, -	2,000 0 0	
The reſidue to be taken from the impoſt duties due before November 1ſt, 1784, - -	15,643 14 4	
		25,991 13 4
The third article, according to act paſſed 16th March, 1785, is to be paid out of the taxes and impoſts, - - -		25,000 0 0
		50,991 13 4
There remains 100,000*l.* ſterling, not yet become due, equal to		166,666 13 4

It is propoſed that the ſame ſhall be divided into yearly payments of 15,000*l.* equal to 25,000*l.* Pennſylvania currency, each, the firſt to become due on the 3d of September, 1786, and to continue for 6 2-3 years. The funds out of which payment ſhall be made have been already aſſigned per act paſſed March 16, 1785, wherefore there is mortgaged, of the monies ariſing from taxes and impoſts, the ſum of 25,000*l.* annually for 6 2-3 years, will amount to - 166,666 13 4

XII. THE debt due on the requiſitions of the United States for fœderal ſupplies.

The quotas of Pennſylvania, in the exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, are

	Payable in facilities, &c. *Dollars.*	*Specie.* *Dollars.*
1. The 1,200,000 dollars called for by act of September, 1782,	180,000	
2. The 4,000,000 dollars called for by acts of October, 1781, and April, 1784, - -	140,099	420,298
3. The 3,000,000 dollars called for by act of September, 1785, herein before adopted, -	273,585	136,793
	593,684	557,091
There have been ſundry payments made on account thereof from March, 1782, till 16th Nov. 1785, including 166,571 50-90ths dollars paid by the loan-officer for one year's intereſt on certificates of debts due by the United States, according to act of March 21ſt, 1783, and including 248,446 85-90ths dollars paid till 16th November, 1785, according to the act of 16th March, 1785,	415,018 $\frac{45}{90}$	490,647 $\frac{45}{90}$
Balance to be diſcharged before the 1ſt of May, 1786.	178,665 $\frac{45}{90}$	66,443 $\frac{45}{90}$
	593,684	557,091

The aforeſaid balance of 178,665 45-90ths dollars, payable in facilities, or to be diſcharged by payment of intereſt on the certified debts of the United States till 1ſt January, 1786, is equal to £ 66,999 11

Whereof there will be diſcharged by the payment of intereſt on the certified debts of the United States till the 1ſt of January, 1786, taking into the account the payments which have been made ſince the 16th November laſt, as well as the further payments

to be made before the ſaid 1ſt of January, 1786, after which the proviſion in the act of March 16th, 1785, ſo far as relates to payment of the intereſt of debts due by the United States, ceaſes,	8,800 0 0	
The intereſt till the 1ſt of January, 1785, will be receivable by this ſtate from the United States in facilities, agreeably to reſolutions of Congreſs, upon the certificates received in the land-office.		
The amount of the intereſt allowed in the land-office thereon till the 1ſt of November laſt, is *l.* 32,016 19 7¼, but the intereſt is therein contained until the time of payment into the ſaid land-office; therefore taking the intereſt upon thoſe received before ſaid 1ſt of January, 1785, and deducting it from the intereſt allowed at the land-office, upon certificates received after that period, it will leave about, - - - - -	25,191 7 2	
Balance, -	33,008 4 1	
		£ 66,999 11 3

The intereſt which will be receivable by the ſtate in facilities, upon the quartermaſter and commiſſaries certificates collected in taxes, when the ſame ſhall be liquidated by the continental commiſſioner, together with the intereſt upon the certificates of debts due by the United States, which have been received in the land-office ſince the 1ſt of November laſt, and which will be ſo received before the 1ſt of May, 1786, will be more than ſufficient to diſcharge the balance aforeſaid.

The aforeſaid balance due in ſpecie is 66,443 45-90ths dollars, equal to - - -		£ 24,916 6 3
The whole of this muſt be paid out of the taxes received before the 1ſt of May next. As the penſioners diſabled in the ſervice are to be paid thereout, it will be neceſſary to apply a part thereof to that uſe; for which purpoſe, including the payments made ſince 16th November, 1785, there may be neceſſary -	10,300 0 0	
The reſidue to be paid out of the taxes now in the treaſury, or firſt received, - - -	14,616 6 3	
		24,916 6 3

Should the ſum of 10,300 *l.* reſerved as above, be more than ſufficient, the overplus to be paid to the receiver of continental taxes on the 1ſt of May next.

XIII. THUS the foregoing balances due to the United States may readily be diſcharged. But there is ſomething more that claims the attention of Pennſylvania.

According to the eſtimation of Congreſs, the ſum of 4,834,279 16-90ths dollars, will be neceſſary to diſcharge the intereſt on the domeſtic debt of the United States till the end of the year 1784; and by the reſolutions of Congreſs of the 27th of September, 1785, facilities or intereſt certificates are directed to be iſſued for the intereſt due until the 1ſt of January, 1785, conſequently facilities will be iſſued nearly to the amount aforeſaid.

And whereas the legiſlature of Pennſylvania, attentive to the creditors of the United States, who are citizens of this commonwealth, hath already begun a ſyſtem of finance for their relief, as well as for the relief of the creditors of this ſtate, in which ſyſtem an emiſſion of bills of credit, to the amount of 150,000 *l.* conſtitutes a principal part: And whereas the iſſuing of the aforeſaid facilities, or intereſt certificates, to the citizens of this ſtate, who are provided for by the act of the 16th day of March laſt, entituled "An act for furniſhing the quota of this "ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and "for funding and paying the intereſt of the debts of this ſtate," would interfere with and derange the ſaid ſyſtem: To obviate which, it is propoſed that a ſubſcription be opened at the office of the comptroller-general of this ſtate, to receive on loan to the commonwealth all ſuch certificates for debts due by the United States to citizens of this ſtate, the intereſt whereof were made payable at the fœderal loan-office in Philadelphia by the act of the 16th of March, 1785, laſt recited; and that every of the ſubſcribers (within a time to be limited for the propoſed loan) receive from the ſaid comptroller-general a certificate, equivalent in value, in lieu of each certificate of the United States which he or ſhe ſhall ſubſcribe; the ſame to bear intereſt from the date of the certificate loaned to the commonwealth; and that *the faith of the ſtate be pledged to the ſubſcribers aforeſaid,* as well for the payment of intereſt half yearly accruing, as for the final redemption of all certificates which ſhall be ſo iſſued by the comptroller-general of this ſtate.

And that ſuch loan-office certificates, entitled as aforeſaid, as have been granted for continental money, which ſhall be loaned to the ſtate as aforeſaid, ſhall be ſet-

-tled and liquidated in ſpecie by the ſaid comptroller-general, agreeably to the ſcale provided for that purpoſe by act of Congreſs of the 28th of June, 1780.

And whereas, according to the ſaid act of Congreſs, the poſſeſſors of certificates for money loaned before the 1ſt day of March, 1778, are entitled to an intereſt of ſix per cent. per annum in ſpecie upon the nominal ſum expreſſed in the certificates, until the final redemption of the principal; that the ſaid comptroller general ſhall alſo certify ſaid nominal ſum on the back of every certificate iſſued by him for loan-office certificates of the aforeſaid deſcription; to the end that the ſaid poſſeſſors may receive the ſame juſtice from this ſtate as hath been promiſed them by the United States.

From the continental loan-officer's account, it appears that he hath paid intereſt for one year to amount of 248,446 85-90ths dollars, between the 16th March and 16th November, 1785, but as many claims are not yet ſettled and certified, and others, although ſettled, may not yet have been preſented for payment of the intereſt; and as on the other hand, the land office daily operates to leſſen the demands upon this fund, ſuppoſe the annual intereſt upon the continental debt provided for by act of 16th March, 1785, to amount to 256,666 2-3 dollars, the capital or principal at ſix per cent. will be - -	£ 1,604,166 13 4
Whereof there hath been paid into the land-office to the 1ſt November, 1785,	72,500 0 0
Capital, the intereſt of which is to be provided for, but the principal to be redeemed will not amount to ſo much in ſpecie, becauſe all the loan-office certificates iſſued from September, 1777, till March, 1778, are herein reckoned as ſpecie, - - - - -	£ 1,531,666 13 4
The annual intereſt, - - - - -	91,900 0 0
Intereſt and arrears of intereſt till the 1ſt of January, 1786, allowing that upon an average the intereſt is due from January, 1782, upon the above,	£ 367,600 0 0

That the ſaid arrears of intereſt be paid at the treaſury out of the taxes due before the 1ſt of January, 1786. And the intereſt afterwards be payable in half yearly payments at the ſaid treaſury, as the ſame ſhall become due; and that to anſwer this purpoſe, the ſum of 91,900*l.* annually be appropriated out of the monies ariſing from taxes and import duties.

Provided alſo, that the arrearages due till the 1ſt of January, 1786, upon the certificates ſo aſſumed by this ſtate, ſhall be paid to the holders reſpectively at the treaſury of this ſtate, in the ſame manner as by act aforeſaid of 16th March, 1785, was directed for paying the arrears of intereſt of the certificates of debts of the United States by the continental loan-officer in this ſtate.

That the ſaid certificates ſhall be receivable at the land-office in payment for lands, in the ſame manner as certificates of this ſtate iſſued per act of April 1ſt, 1784, are by law receivable.

Your committee beg leave to report, that a bill be brought in for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

The PAY and EXPENCES of Government remain to be provided for.

XIV. THE pay of the officers of government annually will amount to about,		£ 27,950 0 0
To diſcharge which,		
1ſt. The duties on ſales by the auctioneers are appropriated hereto by act of 13th April, 1782, and will produce annually about	£ 6,000 0 0	
2d. The monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, which are by act of 25th March, 1785, ſpecially charged with the payment of the ſalaries of the judges of the ſupreme court, -	3,000 0 0	
3d. Court fines and forfeitures, which are in ſome meaſure uncertain, but the annual amount may be ſet at -	3,000 0 0	
4th. The fees received and accounted for to the ſtate by the ſecretary of the council, and the receiver general, ſurveyor general and ſecretary of the land-office, about - -	11,250 0 0	
5th. The monies ariſing from taxes upon writs, payable to the ſtate by the prothonotaries of certain counties, appropriated to this purpoſe March 20th, 1783, - -	2,600 0 0	
Note, This tax ought to be reviſed; it operates very unequally at preſent, on account of the late diviſion of counties, and not being apportioned according to the profits of the offices reſpectively.		
6th. The annual tax upon pleaſurable carriages, appropriated as aforeſaid, - - - -	2,600 0 0	
	£ 28,450 0 0	
Surpluſage to be deducted, - -	500 0 0	
		£ 27,950 0 0

XV. THE expences of government are uncertain, and depend upon the exigencies thereof, and the improvements that may be made for the encouragement and promotion of learning commerce, agriculture and manufactures.

There are, however, in addition to the grants which have been made for the above uſeful purpoſes, ſundry revenues which are by law appropriated, viz.

The tonnage upon ſhipping entering and clearing the port of Philadelphia, appropriated to ſupport the light-houſe at Cape-Henlopen; for erecting piers, and fixing buoys and beacons in the bay and river Delaware. The amount whereof annually is about - - -		£ 2,300 0 0
The health office, for the ſum of 6d. per head, received from paſſengers entering the port of Philadelphia, appropriated to ſupport and keep in repair the hoſpital on State-Iſland, for the reception of paſſengers who have infectious diſeaſes, amounting annually to about, - - - - -		90 0 0
Note, The hoſpital aforeſaid and lot adjoining is alſo appropriated to ſaid uſes.		
The lottery-office, per act paſſed the 15th of March, 1784, for raiſing by way of lottery the ſum of 42,000 dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards improving the navigation of the river Schuylkill, one moiety of the neat proceeds to each,		15,750 0 0
The arrears of the provincial taxes due from the county of Northumberland, appropriated by reſolution of 22d March, 1784, to defray the expences of making a public road from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury, ſay, -		3,000 0 0
		£ 21,140 0 0
The aſcertaining of the weſtern and northern boundaries of the ſtate, and marking the ſame; the ſum uncertain, but ſay	£ 3,500 0 0	
The commiſſioners for dividing the iſlands in the river Delaware, and ſurveying the ſaid river and its navigable branches, above Trenton, and their expences, ſay - -	600 0 0	
The agent to view the donation lands, and to explore the ſaid country, and report, - -	180 0 0	
Repairs of the State-Houſe,	750 0 0	
Improvement of the State Houſe lot, ſay, -	600 0 0	
		£ 5,630 0 0

Theſe are temporary expences, and to be paid out of the arrears of taxes.

The expences for printing the laws, minutes, bills, &c. of the general aſſembly, and other printing for the ſtate, firewood, candles and ſtationary, tranſcribing laws and minutes, expreſſes when ſent on public buſineſs, rewards offered by proclamation, attornies fees in cauſes of the ſtate, expences of the judges when on the circuit, payment for ſlaves executed for capital offences, for attending the State-Houſe clock, attending the ſtate flag, ringing the bells on extraordinary occaſions, and other ſuch like expences, per annum, about - -		£ 6,000 0 0
Payment of which is to be provided for as follows.		
Surpluſage of the appropriation for the pay of officers of gogernment, - -	£ 500 0 0	
There remains, of the old 80,000*l.* loan-office, a principal ſum of *l.* 401 15 0, which, with the intereſt thereupon, will amount to 1000*l.* for 1786 and 1787, at 500*l.* each year, -	500 0 0	
The 150,000*l.* loan-office will be liberated by the firſt of January, 1787, the capital then remaining, 8,350*l.* will produce an annual intereſt of 500*l.* to commence when the aforeſaid two years expire.		
The annual intereſt ~~of the~~ laſt 50,000*l.* loan-office, -	3,000 0 0	
That the ſum of 2,000*l.* the deficiency thereof, be ſupplied annually out of the duties on imports and taxes, -	2,000 0 0	
		£ 6,000 0 0

Revenues and Appropriations.

I. The arrears of taxes due in continental money, - -		£ 2,688,496 5 9
Charged with,		
Balance due in reſolve money, (1) -	£ 121,356 12 5	
Ditto, in commonwealth ditto, (2) -	108,848 17 5	
Carried forward, -	£ 230,205 9 10	£ 2,688,496 5 9

Brought forward, -		£ 230,205 9 10	£ 2,688,496 5 9
Balance due to the United States on the ſinking fund requiſition, (3) - - -		558,692 12 6	
Abatements and exonerations according to law, made on account of the depredations of the enemy on the frontiers, ſay		600,000 0 0	
Will be received in old continental money, beyond the ſum due to the United States, and in continental certificates, according to act of 30th of May, 1780, ſay - -		410,000 0 0	
Will be collected in ſtate money, at 75 for 1, over and above the ſum neceſſary for exchanging reſolve, commonwealth and continental bills of credit, and to be carried to the ſtate money funds, - - - -		889,598 3 5	
			£ 2,688,496 5 9
II. The arrears of taxes, and other funds in ſtate money.			
The above *l.* 889,598 3 5, payable in ſtate money at 75 for one, - - -		£ 11,861 6 2	
The arrears of the tax of five ſhillings per pound, ſee reſolution of Aſſembly September 21ſt, 1782, about -		8,500 0 0	
The arrears of the firſt claſs tax, - -		4,200 0 0	
The arrears of the ſtate money taxes, quotaed upon the counties,		84,667 2 11	
The payments to the Receiver-General's office for land, where titles commenced before 10th of December, 1776. It is directed, by act paſſed 16th September, 1785, that after the 10th April, 1787, proſecutions ſhall be commenced againſt all delinquents: Comparing the future with the paſt, and with probable cauſes, there will be received in ſtate money, between the 1ſt December, 1785, and 10th of April, 1787, - -		18,600 0 0	
			£ 127,828 9 1
Charged with,			
The amount of bills of April 7th, 1781, yet to be redeemed (6)		£ 72,262 16 10	
Sundry accounts and balances due by the commonwealth, payable in ſtate money, according to acts and reſolutions of Aſſembly,		14,632 0 0	
The bills of April 7th, 1781, neceſſary to exchange the bills of June 1ſt, 1780, ~~ſay,~~ - - - -		4,000 0 0	
The payment of ſaid bills of June 1ſt, 1780, in diſcharge of the ſtate money taxes, ſay, - - -		9,100 0 0	
Abatements and exonerations in payment of taxes, on account of the diſtreſſes of the frontiers, occaſioned by the enemy, ſay,		27,833 12 3	
			£ 127,828 9 1
III. The funds for redeeming the bills of June 1ſt, 1780.			
To be taken in by exchange for ſtate money of April 7th, 1781, as aforeſaid, - - - - -		£ 4,000 0 0	
To be received in ſtate money taxes, do. -		9,100 0 0	
The arrears due for principal ſums on mortgages of the 150,000*l.* loan-office, erected in 1774, amounts to - -	29,126 17 3		
Of which there will be quotas, not yet due, payable on the 31ſt December, 1786, -	8,350 0 0		
Principal, - - -	20,776 17 3		
By the 31ſt of December, 1786, there will be due for intereſt hereon, about -	19,223 2 9		
		40,000 0 0	
			£ 53,100 0 0
Charged with,			
The principal of the bills to be redeemed, 109,610 dollars, equal to (5) - - - -		41,103 15 0	
The intereſt thereof at 5 per cent. per annum, from the 1ſt of June, 1780, till the time they will be due, allowing for ſuch as may be redeemed before that time by the means aforeſaid, about		11,996 5 0	
			£ 53,100 0 0
IV. The balances due on the ſales of city lots.			
The amount of the principal thereof unpaid, -		7,492 9 6	
In the treaſury on account of ſales, - -		548 0 0	
			£ 8,040 9 6

Charged thereupon,						
The bills dated 29th April, 1780, yet to be redeemed, (4)	1,103	15	0			
The intereſt thereon till the time they become due, -	225	10	0			
Remains a fund for redemption of depreciation and other certificates, &c. to the amount of - - -	6,711	4	6			
				£ 8,040	9	6
. The impoſt duties, from March till November 1ſt, 1784.						
The amount, excluſive of ſundry entries not yet aſcertained,	-			£ 83,050	0	0
Of which there hath been diſburſed, - -	41,794	9	10			
Appropriated to pay the firſt inſtalment to the proprietaries, per act 9th February, 1785, (11) - -	15,643	14	4			
To diſcharge the arrears of intereſt upon the funded depreciation certificates, (10) - - -	25,097	19	3			
Surplus carried to aggregate fund, - -	513	16	7			
				£ 83,050	0	0
I. The exciſe on ſpirituous liquors.						
The neat proceeds annually about - -	-			£ 15,000	0	0
Charged with,						
The current intereſt of the funded depreciation certificates, (10)	-			£ 15,000	0	0
II. The annual revenue from duties on imports and taxes.						
The amount of the impoſt duties may be eſtimated at	£ 75,000	0	0			
The annual tax, per act of 16th March, 1785, -	76,945	17	6			
				£ 151,945	17	6
Charged with,						
The bills of credit to be ſunk annually for 7½ years (8)	£ 20,000	0	0			
The annual intereſt of the certificates of April 1ſt, 1784, (9)	10,600	0	0			
To be paid annually to the proprietaries for 6⅔ years, (11)	25,000	0	0			
The annual intereſt on the continental debt certificates, (13)	91,900	0	0			
Towards diſcharging the annual expences of government, (15)	2,000	0	0			
Exceſs, to be carried annually to the aggregate fund, -	2,445	17	6			
				£ 151,945	17	6
VIII. The aggregate fund.						
The amount of the arrears of taxes in ſpecie, due before the 1ſt July, 1784, - - -	£ 396,991	0	6			
Ditto before the 1ſt January, 1786, - -	76,945	17	6			
Now in the treaſury, or paid out in intereſt, &c. ſince the 1ſt of January laſt, which payments are herein after charged on the fund,	51,030	6	8			
The emiſſion of bills of credit March 16th, 1785, excluſive of the ſum iſſued on loan, - - -	100,000	0	0			
The duties on imports from 1ſt November, 1784, to the 1ſt November, 1785, ſay, - - -	75,000	0	0			
Surplus brought from the duties on imports to 1ſt Nov. 1784,	513	16	7			
The annual exceſs of the revenue from imports and taxes,	2,445	17	6			
				£ 702,926	18	9
The payments to the continental loan-office, for diſcharging the intereſt on debts of the United States till 16th November, 1785,	£ 93,167	12	1			
The payments on account of intereſt aforeſaid to 1ſt January 1786, ſay, (12) - - - -	8,800	0	0			
The payments which have been made to the United States in money, on account of the requiſitions of Congreſs ſince Jan. 1785, (12)	15,715	14	10			
The intereſt notes redeemed out of the *l.*51,030 6 8 aforeſaid,	5,402	3	1			
The reſidue of the order of 6,500*l.* in favour of James Meaſe, Eſquire, charged upon the arrears of effective ſupplies of 1781, per reſolution of Aſſembly 16th March, 1784, -	5,177	15	0			
The intereſt notes to be redeemed (7) - -	2,103	16	10			
To diſcharge the intereſt on the certificates of April 1ſt, 1784, until 1ſt Jan. 1786, including what hath been paid (9)	27,155	15	7			
The ſecond payment of the grant to the late proprietaries, due September 3d, 1785, (11) - -	25,000	0	0			
The balance due on the requiſitions of the United States, to be paid before the 1ſt May, 1786, (12) - -	24,916	6	3			
Arrears due on the continental debt certificates to the 1ſt of January, 1786, (13) - - -	367,600	0	0			
The expences of determining the boundaries of the ſtate, &c.	5,630	0	0			
Carried forward, -	£ 580,669	3	8			

Brought forward, -	£ 580,669	3	8			
The abatements and exonerations from the taxes of the frontier inhabitants, drove off and diſtreſſed by the enemy, ſay,	30,000	0	0			
	£ 610,669	3	8			
Surplus remaining, - - -	92,257	15	1			
				£ 702,926	18	9

In the foregoing, no note is taken of the arrearages of the provincial taxes (other than that part due from Northumberland county) nor of the balances due from individuals, both of which are to be carried into the aggregate fund.

There is alſo another ſource of revenue not mentioned, which would be productive, but is at preſent loſt for want of an officer authoriſed to collect it, viz. the property eſcheated to the commonwealth. This ought not to be longer neglected.

Any deficiencies which may ariſe, or extraordinary charges to be provided for, are to be made up out of the aggregate fund, and all ſurpluſſes to be added thereunto, and the balance thereof remaining to be applied to diſcharge the principal of the debt, in ſuch manner as ſhall be by law directed.

That in order to bring to a ſpeedy ſettlement the officers concerned in collecting the taxes, ſo much of the act which conſtitutes the office of the comptroller general of this ſtate, as excepts the accounts of "the collectors of the public taxes, and the treaſurers of the different counties," from being examined and ſettled by him, be repealed, and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for that purpoſe, and for compelling a ſpeedy collection of the taxes aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *J. Clark,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Findley,* and Mr. *Smilie,* be a committee, to bring in the ſeveral bills, conformably to the foregoing report.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to "encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional "duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with "them," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, "*for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table; and on the queſtion—"*Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Wayne* and Mr. *J. Irvine,* and are as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Arthur Erwin,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *John Smith,*
12 *Joſeph Thomas,*
13 *Anthony Wayne,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *John Hannum,*
17 *Robert Smith,*
18 *Samuel Evans,*

YEAS.

19 *Jonathan Morris,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *Henry Miller,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *Philip Gartner,*
26 *Joſeph Lilly,*
27 *Henry Tyſon,*
28 *David M'Clellan,*
29 *John Carothers,*
30 *Frederick Watts,*
31 *John Creigh,*
32 *Abraham Lincoln,*
33 *Henry Spyker,*
34 *Philip Kreemer,*
35 *David Davis,*
36 *Baltſer Gehr,*

YEAS.

37 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
38 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
39 *Peter Burkhalter,*
40 *Robert Brown,*
41 *Frederick Antes,*
42 *William Todd,*
43 *William Findley,*

YEAS.

44 *John M'Dowell,*
45 *James M'Calmont,*
46 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
47 *Robert Loller,*
48 *Peter Richards,*
49 *Thomas Rees,*
50 *David Krouſe.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Robert Whitehill,*
3 *John Piper,*
4 *Samuel Dale,*
5 *John Smilie,*

NAYS.

6 *Abraham Smith,*
7 *John Rhea,*
8 *Adam Orth,*
9 *Robert Clark,*
10 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to inveſt the Supreme Executive Council with* "*full powers to lay out, and cauſe to be opened, a ſtate high-way from the city* "*of* Philadelphia *to or near* Miller's Springs, *in* Cumberland *county*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Tyſon*, Mr. *Trail* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

A letter from *Anthony Wayne*, Eſquire, a repreſentative for the county of *Cheſter*, was read, requeſting leave to reſign his ſeat as a member of this Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted.

Whereupon, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ, commanding the Sheriff of the county of *Cheſter* to hold an election of a repreſentative, in the room of the ſaid *Anthony Wayne*, Eſquire.

Petitions from 99 inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* were read, ſimilar to thoſe read yeſterday, ſtating, that they have long ſuffered under unequal taxes, occaſioned by the delinquency of ſeveral counties of the ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Thomas Rees*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that in accepting a ſeat in this Houſe, he was induced to believe he had the concurrence of a majority of the freemen of the county of *Montgomery*; but finding that ſome diſſatisfaction prevails, and his health much impaired, requeſts leave to reſign his ſeat; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted.

Whereupon, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ, commanding the Sheriff of the county of *Montgomery* to hold an election of a repreſentative, in the room of the ſaid *Thomas Rees*, Eſquire.

Adjourned until ten o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, December 26, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, Treaſurer of this ſtate, was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of directing the committee of accounts to burn, during the receſs of the Houſe, the reſolve and commonwealth paper money, and likewiſe the treaſury notes, and iſland money, dated the 29th day of *April*, 1780, now in the treaſury; and ſtating his deſire that the bills of credit, dated *April* 7th, 1781, and the laſt emiſſion by the reſolution of Congreſs, may alſo be deſtroyed, and that an act of Aſſembly will be neceſſary for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from a number of *Germans*, inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that they beheld with great ſatisfaction the reſolution paſſed by this Houſe for having the minutes and bills publiſhed for conſideration printed in the *German* language, but that they are of opinion the good purpoſes thereby intended will not be fully anſwered under the appointment of the preſent *German* printers, perſons in whom they cannot confide for the faithful execution of the buſineſs, as one or both of them (as the petitioners apprehend) have not taken the oath of allegiance to this ſtate; and ſtating, that the news-paper printed by the perſons appointed to execute the ſaid buſineſs is only publiſhed once in a fortnight, whereby the publication of the bills is retarded unneceſſarily, and that the ſaid paper does not circulate in this city; therefore praying that *Melchior Steiner*, of this city, may be appointed to execute the aforeſaid buſineſs, whoſe news-paper is publiſhed weekly, and circulates more generally both in the city and country.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of a number of the freemen and electors of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, read *December* 5th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *A. Smith*.

The ſtanding committee, appointed *November* 30th, reported a draught of inſtructions to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, to whom were preſented the accounts of *Francis Bailey*, *Thomas Bradford*, *Eleazer Oſwald*, *James Muir*, *Daniel Humphreys* and *James Pearſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 23d, reſpecting the annual expenditures for the civil liſt, and to form a return of all officers of the ſtate who are entitled to public emolument by ſalary, fee or perquiſite, was read the ſecond time, and in part conſidered: Whereupon

Reſolved, That all officers of this commonwealth, entitled to ſalary, fee or perquiſite, do make true return of the yearly amount of their reſpective ſalaries, fees or perquiſites, to the committee appointed for procuring ſuch returns, and that the ſaid committee apply to them reſpectively for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for the further relief of the public creditors who are citizens*

" *of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United States of* America, " *and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans,* " *and the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for complying with the requiſition of the United States in* " *Congreſs aſſembled, for the ſervices of the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and* " *eighty-five, and for paying one year's intereſt on the foreign and domeſtic debts,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Maryland *and* Virginia " *to lay out and improve a road within the limits of this ſtate, between the waters* " *of the river* Potowmack *and of the river* Ohio," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to* " *appoint a commiſſioner or commiſſioners to view and open a road from the* Lehigh " Water-Gap, *in the county of* Northampton, *to* Wyoming, *in the county of* " Northumberland, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of* " Dickinſon *College, in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, " *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to* " *the ſtate as a fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the* " *forty-fourth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend " an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " A Sup- " plement to an act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan, Thomas* " *Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph* " *Davis,* to build a new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter,* " and to ſell the old Court-houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Charles Pettit* and *John Bayard,* Eſquires, two of the Delegates of this ſtate, in anſwer to the inſtructions given them reſpecting *Sic Keeſar* and others, natives of *China* and *India,* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 15th, on the petition of *Elizabeth Wilſon,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 24th, on the remonſtrances and petitions of a number of ſhipwrights, and other tradeſmen concerned in building and fitting of ſhips and veſſels for ſea, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 2d, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers* Delaware *and* Lehigh, " *and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the Poor Laws of this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act " to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made, for " regulating the elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and " to eſtabliſh a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections, and to authorize " the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the courts of " record of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the due election " and return of Juſtices of the Peace elect," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*, for the purpoſe of procuring an accurate return of the ſeveral claims made, and allowed by the Supreme Court, againſt the ſeveral perſons attainted of treaſon within this commonwealth; and after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *December* 27, 1785. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The letter from the Treaſurer of the ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be, and they are hereby authoriſed and empowered to examine and deſtroy the Reſolve and Commonwealth paper money, and likewiſe the Treaſury Notes and Iſland money, or bills of *April* 29th, 1780, now in the treaſury.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Logan* be added to the committee of accounts.

A repreſentation from *John Shields* and *John Pomroy*, two of the Truſtees appointed to purchaſe a piece of ground whereon to erect a Court-houſe and Gaol for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, ſetting forth, that the Truſtees, upon examination, unanimouſly agreed that *Hanna*'s-*town* was the moſt ſuitable place for that purpoſe; that the heirs and executors of Mr. *Hanna*'s eſtate were willing to give one or more ſuitable lots of ground, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a Court-houſe and Gaol, and three acres of ground adjoining the town, for the uſe of Churches, Burial-grounds, &c. and that they would diſpoſe of twenty-five acres, at *thirty ſhillings* per acre, for public uſe; that the other Truſtees, having altered their opinion, pointed out a place about three or four miles ſouth of *Hanna*'s-*town* as a more proper place, which the ſaid *Shields* and *Pomroy* diſapprove of.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. *Loller*, appointed, *October* 28th, to collect the fines from delinquent members, preſented to the chair a receipt for *twenty-three pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence*, being the amount of fines by him collected, and paid into the treaſury of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

Reſolved, That the Prothonotary of the ſupreme court be directed to make return to this Houſe of the accounts of the claims reſpectively made and regiſtered in that court, againſt the ſeveral perſons who have been attainted of treaſon.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to lay before this Houſe the accounts of the ſeveral ſales which have been made of the confiſcated property of the perſons aforeſaid, and alſo to make return of ſuch parts of ſaid property as may yet remain unſold.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to direct one hundred and fifty copies of the act, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," to be immediately printed, and that they cauſe the ſame to be forthwith diſtributed in the counties of *Northampton* and *Northumberland*, and particularly in the diſtricts of *Shawaneſe*, *Stoke* and *Wyoming*, in the county of *Northumberland*.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw upon the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Robert Aitkin*, for *eighteen pounds one ſhilling and three-pence*, for printing two plans for liquidating the debts of *Pennſylvania*; and in favor of the Clerk, for *ſixty pounds*, for paying contingent expences, for which he is to account.

On motion made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to prepare and bring in a bill for directing the ſale of the vacant public lots in or near this city, the property of which remains in this ſtate, and that depreciation and the other funded certificates of this ſtate be made receivable in payment for the ſame.

Ordered, That the city members bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*, reſpecting the collection of the arrears of taxes now due within this commonwealth.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Miller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lincoln*, and adopted unanimouſly, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the buſineſs of the General Aſſembly has greatly increaſed, and the duties of the Clerk and the Aſſiſtant Clerk of this Houſe are become much more arduous ſince the revolution: And whereas the frequent applications for tranſcripts of papers, together with the ordinary buſineſs of the Houſe, engroſſes moſt of their time during the receſs: And whereas it is reaſonable and juſt that they ſhould be allowed an adequate compenſation for their ſervices: Therefore

Reſolved, That the Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, ſeverally, be allowed thirty days pay for their ſervices during the receſs of the Houſe, and that the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer for the ſame.

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the Treaſurer, in favor of the Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, for *four pounds ten ſhillings* each, for their ſervices during the receſs of the Houſe.

The report of the committee of accounts, read yeſterday, on the accounts of *Francis Bailey* and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw upon the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Francis Bailey,* for *eighty-ſeven pounds ſix ſhillings*; in favor of *Thomas Bradford,* for *three hundred and ſorty-one pounds thirteen ſhillings*; in favor of *James Muir,* for *fifty-four pounds ten ſhillings and nine-pence*; in favor of *Eleazer Oſwald,* for *twenty-ſeven pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence*; in favor of *James Pearſon,* for *nineteen pounds eleven ſhillings and one penny*; and in favor of *Daniel Humphreys,* for *ſix pounds fifteen ſhillings*; in full of their reſpective balances or accounts.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of ſundry ſhipwrights, &c. was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petitions.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Salter,* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled, " *An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this* " *commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the payment of the principal and intereſt of* " *ſuch of the bills emitted purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day* " *of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act of the legiſlature* " *of this ſtate of* June *firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall re-* " *main unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hun-* " *dred and eighty-ſix,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for repealing ſo much of the law paſſed in* December, *one* " *thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, for raiſing the ſum of* ninety-three thou- " ſand ſix hundred and forty pounds and ten ſhillings, *annually, for ſix years,* " *as relates to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to be* " *laid,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *December* 24th, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt due upon* " *the depreciation certificates granted by the ſtate, upon which intereſt was here-* " *tofore payable,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for repealing ſo much of a law paſſed in* De- " cember, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, for raiſing the ſum of* " ninety-three thouſand ſix hundred and forty pounds and ten ſhillings, *an-* " *nually, for ſix years, as relates to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes* " *therein directed to be laid,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt due upon the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, upon which intereſt "was heretofore payable*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the payment of the principal and "intereſt of ſuch of the bills emitted* June *the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred "and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, *one "thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of "taxes within this commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by "paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of ſuch officers, late of the ſtate "navy, as were made priſoners of war previous to the derangement in the year "one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight, and were afterwards honorably "diſcharged, or who died during their captivity*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for complying with the requiſition of the United "States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the ſervices of the year one thouſand ſeven "hundred and eighty-five, and for paying one year's intereſt on the foreign and "domeſtic debts*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the further relief of the public creditors, "who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United "States of* America, *and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix "months*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee, appointed for the purpoſe, reported, That they have affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz*.

I. *An* ACT *to empower certain Truſtees, therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of certain lands and premiſes, and to apply the monies ariſing therefrom towards the building of a parſonage houſe, for the uſe of the Miniſter for the time being of the*

Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St. James, *in the borough of* Lancaſter, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

II. *An* ACT *empowering certain Truſtees, therein named, to ſell and diſpoſe of two certain tracts or parcels of glebe land and premiſes, in the townſhip of* Saliſbury, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *and to ſecure the annual intereſt ariſing from the ſale thereof towards the maintenance and ſupport of the Miniſter for the time being of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of St.* John'*s, on* Pequea.

III. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to encourage and "protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the "importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them."

IV. *An* ACT *for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned until the Twenty-firſt Day of *February* next, at Three o'Clock, P. M.

APPENDIX.

The Minority, on the queſtion taken the 24th day of *November* laſt, "To "ſtrike out the name of *Daniel Montgomery*, and, in lieu thereof, to inſert "that of *William Maclay*, and that the word *legal* be inſerted before the word "*votes*," gave the following reaſons of diſſent from the vote of the Houſe, which were received too late to be inſerted in the proper place.

DISSENTIENT,

1ſt. BECAUSE it appears, upon full enquiry into the merits of the late election for the county of *Northumberland*, that the number of votes given for *Daniel Montgomery* were four hundred and ten, when thoſe for *William Maclay* were but four hundred and ſeven votes; and although in the diſtrict of *Northumberland* the names of electors on the poll liſt were ten ſhort of the number of tickets which were received by the inſpectors, yet there has been teſtimony produced to this Houſe, fully ſufficient, as we believe, to account for the defect.

2d. Becauſe, that if no ſuch teſtimony had been adduced, the deficiency ſhould be ſuppoſed to have proceeded from the involuntary omiſſion of the inſpectors or clerks who kept the poll, not to fraud, which is always to be proved, never to be preſumed.

3d. Becauſe, that to thus ſet aſide the candidate who has the higheſt number of votes, and in his place to introduce another who is confeſſedly lower in number of votes, under pretence of irregularity, when the merits can be aſcertained, is a very dangerous precedent, and may be productive of the moſt alarming conſequences, as it holds out a ſtrong temptation to the officers of elections to contrive irregularities, with deſign to bring on controverſies of this nature before the General Aſſembly.

4th. Becauſe, that if the irregularities in any election by ballot be of ſuch a nature as to render the event uncertain, they ought to operate to the ſetting aſide the perſons returned, and to the directing of a new election. In this caſe, the tickets beyond the number of names that appeared on the poll liſts, for aught that appears, might contain the name of *William Maclay*, or not have the name of *Daniel Montgomery* on them.

5th. Becauſe we conſider the vote as deſtructive to the rights of the people, and as deſigned to lead this Houſe to aſſume to itſelf inherent and unalienable rights of the freemen of *Northumberland* county, of electing a repreſentative in the legiſlature, and as an unwarrantable uſurpation of the moſt dangerous tendency; and we wiſh to leſſen the weight thereof by ſubſcribing our names to theſe reaſons of diſſent.

John Clark,
John Smith,
Frederick Watts,
Robert Whitehill,
Abraham Smith,
Adam Orth,
Joſeph Thomas,
John Piper,
David Krouſe,
Robert Clark,
John Rhea,
John Smilie,
John M'Dowell,
James M'Calmont,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
James Irvine,
William Findley,
David Davis,
Baltſer Gehr,
Henry Spyker,
William Todd,
John Carothers,
Abraham Lincoln,
Nicholas Lutz,
Philip Kreemer.

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND SESSION
OF THE TENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at *Philadelphia*, on *Tueſday*, the Twenty-firſt Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſix.

Tueſday, *February* 21, 1786. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of Members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *February* 22, 1786. P. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

George Woods, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, and *James Edgar*, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington*, appearing in the Houſe for the firſt time, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A return of the election held in purſuance of the writ iſſued the 24th of *December* laſt, in the county of *Cheſter*, for a Repreſentative, in the room of *Anthony Wayne*, Eſquire, who reſigned, was preſented to the chair and read, whereby it appeared that *Townſend Whelen*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

A return of the election held in purſuance of the writ iſſued the 24th of *December* laſt, in the county of *Montgomery*, for a Repreſentative, in the room of *Thomas Rees*, Eſquire, who reſigned, was preſented to the chair and read, whereby it appeared that *Samuel Wheeler*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

Whereupon *Townſend Whelen* and *Samuel Wheeler*, Eſquires, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 23, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers freeholders of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, ſetting forth, that they entertain a ſincere wiſh to ſee the public debts diſcharged, and are actuated by the ſame motives to lay before the Houſe ſeveral grievances, which they hope may be remedied, *viz.* 1ſt. The mode of taxation labours under ſeveral difficulties, is very expenſive, and much money ſquandered before the tax enters the treaſury; they therefore beg the Houſe would take into conſideration, whether it would not be more expedient to tax only the real eſtate, either by the acre or pound, if valued, under a proviſo, that each ſhould pay his tax himſelf, at places and to perſons appointed; and they humbly conceive, that if ſuch an act ſhould ſtand for a number of years, the many tax officers might be reduced. 2d. That the expences of government might be reduced. 3d. That no taxes be laid, before the arrears of other counties are paid. 4th. To reſtore to the Bank its charter, which, in their opinion, will give us a ready market, and ſerve as a channel to bring the wealth tranſmarine regions to this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Preſbyterian Church in the borough of *Carliſle*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter, elders and members of the Preſbyterian Church at *Silver-Spring*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying to to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the northernmoſt part of the county of *Montgomery*, and part of the counties of *Northampton* and *Berks*, was read, ſetting forth the great difficulty and danger they are ſubjected to in croſſing *Great-Swamp* creek, in *Marlborough* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, and ſtating the inability of the inhabitants of the ſaid townſhip to build a bridge over the ſaid creek; therefore praying an act may be paſſed authoriſing and eſtabliſhing a lottery for that purpoſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petition of the ſame purport, read *December* 6th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Lutz* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

A letter from the Secretary of the *American* Philoſophical Society was read, requeſting this Houſe to attend their annual oration in the Hall of the Univerſity, on *Monday*, the twenty-ſeventh inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Samuel Foulke*, Eſquire, was read, in excuſe for his non-attendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the miniſter and members of the Baptiſt Church in *New-Britain* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, read *December* 22d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the incorporated Baptiſt congregation in the townſhip and county of *Montgomery*, read *December* 17th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council had buſineſs, which they would lay before the Houſe.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the eſtate of* Frederick "Mehl *in certain lots of land, ſituate and being within the townſhips of* German-"town *and* Briſtol, *in the county of Philadelphia*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Maryland *and* Virgi-"nia *to lay out and improve a road within the limits of this ſtate, between the* "*waters of the river* Potowmack *and of the river* Ohio," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Society, known by the* "*name and ſtyle of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for inſuring houſes from loſs* "*by fire, to ratify and confirm the articles of agreement of the contributors, and* "*to enable them to make ſuitable bye-laws for the better management and proſe-*"*cution of their deſign*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *February* 24, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Abraham Scott, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, appearing in the Houſe for the firſt time, was qualified conformably to the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

A Meſſage from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MES-

A MESSAGE *from the* VICE-PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

WITH this Meſſage will be preſented ſundry papers, which have been received during your late receſs, and which we have thought proper to tranſmit thus early in the ſeſſion, for your advice and conſideration.

The ſeveral letters from Mr. Secretary *Thomſon* will ſhew the ſtate of repreſentation in Congreſs for the months of *November*, *December* and *January* laſt; and the circular letter from the Board of Treaſury exhibits a general account of the receipts and expenditures of the United States, from the firſt of *November*, 1784, to the firſt of *November*, 1785.

Mr. *Maclay*'s report of the temper of the *Six Nations*, and the ſucceſs of his laſt commiſſion, cannot fail to be very ſatisfactory, and adds another inſtance to the experience of *Pennſylvania*, that the friendſhip of *Indians* is only to be ſecured by treaties founded upon reciprocal advantage, fairly conducted, and ſtrictly adhered to.

The letter from our Delegates of the thirty-firſt of *December*, and that from *Alexander Patterſon* of the twenty-eighth of *January*, are immediately connected with a ſubject of much importance to the peace and honor of the ſtate. From theſe papers it appears, that the ſpirit of diſorder which has ſo much prevailed in a part of *Northumberland* county, and which the ſtate has ſo often and vainly endeavoured to reclaim by acts of indulgence, is ſtill exiſting in great force, and that after having ſo long ſpoke the language of occaſional diſobedience, it is now meditating the means of laſting defection.

The paper ſigned *John Franklin, &c.* like many former and more explicit demonſtrations of ſubmiſſion, can, therefore, but be conſidered as intended to amuſe and deceive.

Under theſe circumſtances, we ſubmit to the wiſdom of the Houſe whether any new meaſures, additional to thoſe provided by your act of the twenty-fourth day of *December* laſt, ſhould now be adopted, as neceſſary to correct an evil, which forbearance tends only to ſtrengthen and increaſe.

The negotiation with the ſtates of *Delaware* and *Maryland*, for the purpoſe of an improved inland navigation, has commenced, and we hope to receive the ſenſe of thoſe ſtates upon our propoſitions before the cloſe of your preſent ſeſſion.

On this meaſure we would, however, wiſh to remark, that the reaſonings which ſuggeſted it might, as far as they relate to *Pennſylvania* alone, be much further and very uſefully extended. The increaſing population and wealth of our weſtern frontier makes a more eaſy and intimate connection with it an object of much moment, and, conſidered in all its conſequences, cannot fail to induce ſome early ſteps, preparatory at leaſt, for opening a communication by water between the *Allegheny* river and the weſt branch of the *Suſquehanna.*

The letter of the thirtieth of *January* from Governor *Henry*, contains ſome reſolutions of the legiſlature of the ſtate of *Virginia*, which, in our opinion, cannot be too warmly recommended. It is the intention of theſe reſolutions, to bring about a commercial convention of the ſtates, which we regard as the only efficient mean immediately in our power, to correct or remove the many evils by which the trade of *America* has been ſo long and exceedingly oppreſſed.

By the forty-ſecond ſection of the conſtitution it is declared, that every foreigner of good character, who comes to ſettle in this ſtate, having firſt taken an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the ſame, may purchaſe or by other juſt means acquire lands, *&c. &c.* and after one year's reſidence be deemed a free citizen thereof, *&c. &c.*

It may be the eventual misfortune of this ſtate, that no mode ſhould yet have been adopted for aſcertaining the *good character* of ſuch foreigners as have come to ſettle among us, and exerciſe the rights of citizens; and we ſhould hold ourſelves very deficient in political duty, were we not to recommend that ſome meaſure ſhould now be deviſed and adopted, which, while it admitted the induſtrious and honeſt, would operate as an effectual bar againſt the idle and profligate.

The claims of *Alexander M'Dowell* and *Henry Bedkin*, Eſqrs. and of Meſſieurs *Bedford, Nevill, &c.* ſeem to be well founded, and have the recommendation of this Board.

CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, February 23, 1786.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid Meſſage, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition and remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, diſtinguiſhed from others by their obſervation of the ſeventh day of the week for the weekly Sabbath, in behalf of themſelves and others of the ſame denomination, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality*," &c. ſo far as the ſame is intended to impoſe a fine of *thirty ſhillings* on any perſon or perſons who ſhall work on the firſt day of the week, commonly called *Sunday*; and alſo againſt the act for regulating the general elections, which hath fixed on the ſeventh day of the week preceding the general elections, for electing inſpectors and townſhip aſſeſſors, whereby they are deprived of equal privileges with other citizens; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Alexander Martin*, read *December* 16th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Logan*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Auguſtus Patterſon*, read *December* 7th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whelen*, Mr. *Watts* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom was re-committed *December* 2d laſt, the bill, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate*," reported a bill of a ſimilar title, which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for removing the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Chapel of* St. Thomas, *in* Carnarvon *townſhip*, Berks *county, and for incorporating the congregation thereof*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the incorporating the congregation of the*

"*Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church, commonly called* Bangor *Church, and School, in* "Church-town, Carnarvon *townſhip, and county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, February 25, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, *February 25th,* 1786.

SIR,

THE papers incloſed came too late to become a part of our communication of yeſterday. They are of ſuch a nature as cannot fail to engage the moſt ſerious and early attention of the Houſe, before whom you will be pleaſed to lay them. *I am, SIR,*

With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Loller,* to report thereon.

A petition from *William Healy,* ſilver-plater, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath opened a ſilver-plating manufactory in this city, but, notwithſtanding every exertion on his part, his emoluments have been very inconſiderable, owing to the vaſt importation of plated ware from *England;* and praying this Houſe to lay ſuch additional duties on imported articles of this kind, as will tend to promote ſo uſeful a branch of buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from a number of the taxable freemen, inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Newtown* to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Elizabeth Ferguſon,* read *December* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Work* and Mr. *Trail,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John M'Pherſon,* read *October* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A petition from *Zachariah Connell* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of authoriſing him, his heirs and aſſigns, to eſtabliſh and maintain a ferry over the river *Youghiogeny,* in *Bullſkin* townſhip, in the county of *Fayette.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Fayette* county was read, remonſtrating againſt that part of the act, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation of juries,*" which directs the payment of *five ſhillings per diem* to each juror, and praying they may be exempted from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation and petition of a committee of the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh* was read, ſetting forth, that ſenſible of the great advantages of religious impreſſions on the mind, and of aſſembling on the Sabbath in public worſhip, they have formed a church under the direction of the Reverend *Samuel Barr*, and praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* and Diſtricts annexed, ſetting forth, that the alterations made in the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the Poor-laws of this commonwealth,*" will be beneficial and juſt, particularly the permitting the Overſeers by law to viſit the paupers in the houſe, to make the neceſſary enquiry into their right of reſidence, and to obtain orders for the removal of thoſe who have no legal reſidence therein to their proper place of abode; that they view with concern the rapid increaſe of expence for the ſupport of the poor in the Alms-houſe, the levies laſt year having amounted to the enormous ſum of *eleven thouſand five hundred pounds*; and ſuggeſting the propriety of enabling the Overſeers of the Poor to ſend the large number of vagrants, and other diſorderly perſons who come to this city, and have not even a reſidence in this ſtate, to where they belong, with leſs expence than that now appointed by law, and to put the management of the houſe on its original baſis, that the vagrants and others, who are able to contribute towards their ſupport, may be compelled to work; and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from the owners of rope-walks within the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition, *&c.* of a number of ſhipwrights, and other tradeſmen concerned in the building and fitting of ſhips and veſſels for ſea, read *December* 24th laſt, ſo far as the ſame reſpects a drawback being allowed on the importation of foreign cordage, imported by foreigners ſolely for the fitting out ſhips built here by their orders.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 26th laſt, on the petition of *Elizabeth Wilſon*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill ſupplementary to the act, entituled "*An Act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate,*" extending the benefit of ſaid act to the public officers of this ſtate, who had their accounts ſettled by the ſaid Comptroller previous to the paſſing of the ſame; provided the benefit of ſaid ſupplement be limited to   days after the paſſing the ſame.

Ordered, That Mr. *A. Erwin*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *A. Smith*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for the further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United States of* America,

" rica, *and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch* " *loans, and the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act to aſcertain the number of taxable inhabitants* " *within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each of the counties of this com-* " *monwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for debating the ſame by paragraphs.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act " to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made, for " regulating the elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and " to eſtabliſh a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections, and to authorize " the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the courts of " record of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the due election " and return of Juſtices of the Peace elect," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement* " *to the act, entituled* " An act for raiſing the ſum of Forty-two Thouſand " Dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of *Philadel-* " *phia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards the improving the na- " vigation of the river *Schuylkill,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, February 27, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Philip Dalby,* of the ſtate of *Virginia,* was read, ſetting forth, that he was in the month of *February* laſt called to the city of *Philadelphia,* to tranſact and negociate ſeveral pieces of buſineſs in which he was intereſted, and which detained him ſeveral days; that having ſettled every thing, and being about to depart, he was ſerved with a writ of Habeas Corpus, iſſued at the inſtance of *Francis,* a mulatto ſlave, whom the memorialiſt had taken with him as a waiter, to which writ he made ſuch return as he was by counſel adviſed, and waited upon the judges at their chambers, where the ſlave's claim to freedom, and the memorialiſt's claim to his ſervice, were fully diſcuſſed; that the memorialiſt, from the ſtate of the ſeveral claims, was fully convinced that all proceedings thereupon would ceaſe, but, to his great mortification, he was compelled to give attendance before the judges for many days, was detained two weeks longer in *Philadelphia* than his own buſineſs required, and was at length compelled to give bond, with ſecurity, to attend a trial at the ſupreme court, and to have the ſlave forthcoming at the time of ſuch trial; that he is an inhabitant of *Virginia,* a free and independent ſtate, governed by its own laws; that he purchaſed the ſlave in that ſtate, where he had reſided ſeveral years, and was deemed and conſidered under the laws of that ſtate as a ſlave for life; from whence the memorialiſt was and ſtill is of opinion,

nion, that any queſtion reſpecting freedom between him and the ſlave can only be determined by the laws of the country where they live, and that no tribunal in *Pennſylvania*, or any other part of the United States, except in *Virginia*, can take cognizance of ſuch a queſtion; that the memorialiſt, in compliance with the bond given by him, ſent the ſlave in the month of *October* laſt, to *Philadelphia*, at which time he had notice that the trial would come on before the ſupreme court; but thoſe who are at the bottom of the perſecution carried on againſt the memorialiſt, not being able to hunt out any teſtimony to anſwer their purpoſe, had the trial poſtponed until *April* term, when he is again directed to attend with his ſlave, which, if he ſhould fail to do, his bond will be forfeited; and how many times more he may have to give attendance from *Virginia* to *Philadelphia*, before he can have the point determined, he cannot foreſee; that he has already been run to the expence of *fifty pounds*, in defending his property againſt an unjuſt and illegal attack, a ſum fully equal to the value of the property, and how much more he may be compelled to expend time alone can diſcover, as every artifice and chicane of law is practiſed to compel him to give up his rights, a proceeding in all caſes unjuſt, but more particularly ſo in this; that he is adviſed, no tribunal without the limits of *Virginia* can have any right or authority to take cognizance of it, as the queſtion depends ſolely upon the laws of *Virginia*, of which the judges of *Pennſylvania* cannot have any knowledge; therefore praying this Houſe to make ſuch order, that the memorialiſt may be diſcharged from all further attendance upon the Habeas Corpus iſſued at the inſtance of the ſaid *Francis*, and be reimburſed the coſts which he has been ſo unjuſtly run to.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 24th, to arrange the ſubject matters of the Meſſage, *&c.* from the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, and report thereon, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given *February* 23d, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Baptiſt Church in the townſhip* "*of* New-Britain, *and county of* Bucks," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for the* "*further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving* "*on loan certain debts of the United States of* America, *and for funding the* "*ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of cer-* "*tain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months*," was read the third time: Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof until *Thurſday* next.

And on the queſtion,—"To agree to the ſame?"

It was carried in the negative.

The Houſe then proceeded to conſider the bill by paragraphs.

And in debating the preamble, *viz.*

"Whereas by an act of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, paſſed on the ſixteenth day of *March*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, entituled "*An Act to furniſh the quota of this* "*ſtate, towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United States*," proviſion was made, amongſt other things, for enabling the continental loan-officer in this ſtate to pay the annual intereſt of certain debts of the United States, due to the citizens of this ſtate, on the certificates in the ſaid act ſet forth and deſcribed: And whereas the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by act bearing date the twenty-ſeventh day of *September*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred eighty and five, have made ſuch regulations concerning the payment of the ſaid intereſt, as to render it inexpedient to continue the payment of the ſame in the manner directed by the aforeſaid act of this ſtate: And whereas it is juſt and proper, that the patriotic citizens of this ſtate, who in the late arduous conflict yielded their property and their perſonal ſervices to the public uſe, and thereby eminently contributed to the eſtabliſhment of the peace, liberty and ſafety of the United States of *America*, ſhould be relieved, as far as circumſtances will admit, from bearing an undue proportion of the public burthen, which ought to reſt equally on all the citizens:"

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To ſtrike out the words, "*And whereas it is juſt and proper, that the patriotic citizens of this ſtate, who in the late arduous conflict yielded their property and their perſonal ſervices to the public uſe, and thereby eminently contributed to the eſtabliſhment of the peace, liberty and ſafety of the United States of* America, *ſhould be relieved, as far as circumſtances will admit, from bearing an undue proportion of the public burthen, which ought to reſt equally on all the citizens.*"

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid motion?"

It was carried in the negative.

The aforeſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—"Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Hannum*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *John Clark*,
4 *Arthur Erwin*,
5 *John Smith*,
6 *Joſeph Thomas*,
7 *Robert Smith*,
8 *Jonathan Morris*,
9 *David M'Conaughy*,
10 *Robert Whitehill*,
11 *John Carothers*,
12 *Frederick Watts*,
13 *John Creigh*,
14 *Abraham Lincoln*,
15 *Nicholas Lutz*,
16 *Henry Spyker*,
17 *Philip Kreemer*,
18 *David Davis*,
19 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
20 *Robert Trail*,
21 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

YEAS.

22 *Peter Burkhalter*,
23 *Robert Brown*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *Frederick Antes*,
26 *Samuel Dale*,
27 *William Todd*,
28 *John Hughes*,
29 *John M'Dowell*,
30 *James Edgar*,
31 *John Smilie*,
32 *James M'Calmont*,
33 *Abraham Smith*,
34 *John Rhea*,
35 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
36 *Robert Loller*,
37 *Peter Richards*,
38 *Adam Orth*,
39 *Robert Clark*,
40 *David Krouſe*,
41 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,

NAYS.

4 *George Logan*,
5 *Robert Ralſton*,
6 *James Moore*,

NAYS.

7 *Thomas Bull,*
8 *John Hannum,*
9 *Samuel Evans,*
10 *Townſend Whelen,*
11 *Alexander Lowrey,*
12 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
13 *Joſeph Work,*
14 *Abraham Scott,*

NAYS.

15 *Henry Miller,*
16 *Michael Schmyſer,*
17 *Philip Gartner,*
18 *Joſeph Lilly,*
19 *Henry Tyſon,*
20 *Adam Eichelberger,*
21 *George Woods,*
22 *Samuel Wheeler.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The following bills, having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, viz.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act for raiſing the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill.*"

An ACT *for incorporating the Society, known by the name and ſtyle of the Mutual Aſſurance Company, for inſuring houſes from loſs by fire, to ratify and confirm the articles of agreement of the contributors, and to enable them to make ſuitable bye-laws for the better management and proſecution of their deſign.*

A letter from *William Maclay,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland,* was read, in excuſe for his non-attendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 28, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Robert Caldwell,* late Captain in the ninth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying to be entitled to the ſame benefits and emoluments, officers of equal rank in the *Pennſylvania* line are entitled to.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Summers,* late Lieutenant in the fourth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth his diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying to be allowed half pay during life.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of mechanics and labourers employed in the rope-walks in the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the prayer of the petition, *&c.* of a number of ſhip-wrights, and other tradeſmen concerned in the building and fitting of ſhips and veſſels for ſea being granted, read *December* 24th laſt, ſo far as the ſame reſpects a drawback being allowed on the importation of foreign cordage, imported by foreigners ſolely for the fitting out ſhips built here by their orders.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Judges of the court of common pleas for the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that from the great acceſſion of foreigners to this city, and other cauſes, the ſubjects of litigation in the court of common pleas for the county of *Philadelphia* have become ſo numerous, as to require the conſtant and regular attendance of the Judges of the ſaid court for at leaſt three or four weeks in each term, which, together with the buſineſs of the other occaſional and ſtated courts held in this city, employ the whole time of the ſaid Judges in the ſeat of juſtice for near one half the year; and ſuggeſting the propriety and expediency of making a ſuitable proviſion for the Judges of the court of common pleas, either out of the revenues which ariſe or may be made to ariſe out of the ſaid court, or in ſuch other manner as to this Houſe ſhall ſeem meet and proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *York-Town*, in the county of *York*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for incorporating the inhabitants of the ſaid town, and erecting the ſame into a borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance of a number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, in behalf of the religious ſociety of Seventh-day Baptiſts within the ſaid county, and elſewhere within this commonwealth, of a ſimilar tenor to that preſented and read *February* 24th inſtant, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the ſociety of the Seventh-day Baptiſts reſiding within the townſhips of *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Nantmill*, and parts adjacent, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that agreeably to the petition of *Hazael Thomas*, on behalf of the ſaid ſociety, a bill was, by the late Houſe of Aſſembly, ordered to be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of incorporating the ſaid ſociety, but was afterwards ſuſpended; and praying this Houſe to reſume the conſideration of the ſaid bill, and enact the ſame into a law, that thereby they may be enabled to recover and hold ſuch donations and bequeſts, as have been or hereafter may be made to the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers non-reſident proprietors of new land within this commonwealth was read, ſetting forth, that they are frequently expoſed to great and irreparable injuries by the mode in which the taxes on their unſettled lands are collected; that their lands lying at remote diſtances, and in places with which certain communications are extremely difficult, and the names and reſidences of the collectors being often unknown, ſuch proprietors frequently have it not in their power to tranſmit the monies due for taxes, or even to know their amount, in conſequence of which they are expoſed to the loſs of their lands by ſale, for a ſmall proportion of their real value, for the purpoſe of diſcharging thoſe taxes; therefore praying a law may be paſſed, requiring the aſſeſſors of new townſhips (under ſuch deſcriptions as ſhall be ſufficiently comprehenſive) to tranſmit, within a limited time, to the treaſurer of this ſtate, liſts of all taxes now due from non-reſident proprietors, and ſimilar liſts of all ſuch future taxes, within certain times alſo to be limited; that the treaſurer publiſh, in one or more of the news-papers, the liſts of thoſe taxes, and that within   months after ſuch publications reſpectively, all non-reſident proprietors ſhall be obliged to pay to the treaſurer the taxes ſo charged on their lands, on failure of which he ſhall give notice to the reſpective aſſeſſors or collectors to levy the taxes by ſales of their lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James Lees*, read *December* 16th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *M'Conaughy*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Jacob Weaver* and others, read *December* 14th laſt, was ead the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* townſhip, in he county of *Philadelphia*, was read as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The Petition of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Paſſyunk *Townſhip, in the County of* Philadelphia,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT by an act of General Aſſembly of the province of *Pennſylvania*, entituled "*An act for the better employment, relief and ſupport of the poor within the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk, *and the* Northern Liberties," paſſed the eighth day of *February*, 1766, the inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* townſhip were joined to the city of *Philadelphia*, the ſaid diſtrict, townſhip and liberties, for the purpoſe of contributing, by taxes, to the maintenance of the poor of the ſaid city, diſtrict and townſhips, indiſcriminately, each diviſion according to the value of the real and perſonal property of its inhabitants, and not according to the number of poor reſiding within their limits; that upon the remonſtrance and petition of the inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* to the Aſſembly of 1782, they were effectually relieved from their legal grievance of contributing, by taxes, to the maintenance of any poor but their own, by an act, entituled "*An act to amend the act, entituled* "An act for the better employment of the poor of the city of *Philadelphia*," &c.

That upon a petition of the Managers of the Houſe of Employment to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and the report of their committee, a bill was brought in, and printed for public conſideration, the purport whereof is, that the inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* ſhall again be reduced to their former ſtate of grievance; againſt which bill the ſaid inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* humbly remonſtrated by their petition dated 30th *Auguſt*, 1785, now on the files of the Houſe, to which your petitioners beg leave to refer, and only to add a few remarks.

1ſt. It is ſaid, and it is all that can or may be ſaid, againſt the rights of *Paſſyunk*, that by the act of Aſſembly of 1766, their townſhip was joined to the city, upon a petition of the then inhabitants thereof, preferred for that purpoſe. This may be partly true; but it is well known, that a few deſigning men who introduce petitions among their neighbours may eaſily find means to get ſubſcribers, who dont underſtand for what they pray, whilſt they are conſtantly told, You men of *Paſſyunk*, pray! it is for your good. And ſome of your petitioners remember well how it was given out, that by the large contributions of the wealthy city of *Philadelphia*, and the province in general, ſuch income and funds would be raiſed, as that *Paſſyunk* ſhould be ſcot free. Beſides, ſome perſons, having conſiderable eſtates in the city of *Philadelphia*, and at the ſame time a villa or plantation, a ground-rent, or other ſort of tenement, in *Paſſyunk* townſhip, would frown at their tenant, if he ſhould refuſe to ſign a petition recommended by his land-lord, or to give him a lift to bear his heavy poor tax on all the houſes and property he has in the city. But then it was the duty of the Aſſembly of the year 1766 to have rejected the petition of the city of *Philadelphia*, praying to load *Paſſyunk* with more poor tax than was requiſite to maintain their own poor; and if the men of *Paſſyunk* were weak enough to pray againſt themſelves, to reject their prayers likewiſe.

2d. The ſyſtem of our poor laws is wiſely framed to provide againſt people being overcharged with poor taxes; for not only the overſeers of the poor of each city, borough, diſtrict or townſhip, but every inhabitant thereof, is charged to guard that no ſtranger may gain a ſettlement without giving ſecurity, or certificates from the places where they firſt ſettled: If they are neglectful in this point of duty, the puniſhment follows of courſe, that they muſt maintain the poor who came in to them by ſtealth and unobſerved; and the reward of their vigilance was, that they had the leſs poor to maintain. If *Paſſyunk* may be weighed in this ſcale, its proportion, whether ſole or joined with the city, is eaſily found. *Paſſyunk* has at preſent but one poor to maintain, and the year before it was ſevered from the city was rated in two poor taxes. And foraſmuch as the city of *Philadelphia* is the great inlet of all manner of perſons into this ſtate, their overſeers of the poor cannot, by the utmoſt vigilance, keep off whole ſwarms of people to remain therein, who in the end muſt become burthenſome beyond meaſure; and ſo it is but reaſonable this city ſhould be aſſiſted by the public in bearing their great overweight of paupers; and if the ſums of money raiſed by voluntary contributions, donations, legacies, &c. with the one ſhilling per month for every ſeaman, in this bill provided, are inſufficient, other means to relieve them might be found, more juſtifiable than to ſaddle ſome part of this overweight on *Paſſyunk*, which is unconnected with and at ſome conſiderable diſtance from the buildings of the ſaid city.

And your petitioners humbly pray your Honorable Houſe to be ſupported in their conſtitutional right of maintaining their own poor, and no more, of which the Aſſembly of 1766 firſt deprived them, and the Aſſembly of 1782 reſtored them to; the Managers of the Houſe of Employment have impeached them of in the Aſſembly of 1786: From whence they are brought forward to your Honorable Houſe, in order to receive your determination, according to juſtice and the general laws of the land.

And your petitioners, as in duty, ſhall pray.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance and petition from the Managers for the relief and employment of the poor was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The Remonſtrance and Petition of the Managers, elected by the Contributors to the Relief and Employment of the Poor in the City of Philadelphia, &c.

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT having underſtood a petition has been delivered to your Honorable Houſe, ſtiled "A Petition of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* and diſtricts annexed," amongſt other matters we obſerve, particularly complaining of the rapid increaſe of the expences for the ſupport of the poor in the Alms-houſe, which not only carries inſinuations to the prejudice of the Managers who have the care of the inſtitution, but highly derogatory to the honor and integrity of the Juſtices of this city and diſtricts, by whoſe conſent, and under whoſe authority, taxes have been directed to be levied.

We therefore beg leave to obſerve the power the Honorable Houſe have over this inſtitution, by the incorporating law, is in the following words:

"That the corporation ſhall at all times, when required, ſubmit their
"books, accounts, affairs and œconomy to the inſpection and free examina-
"tion of ſuch Viſitors, as ſhall be from time to time appointed by the Aſ-
"ſembly of this province to viſit the ſame."

Your petitioners therefore earneſtly pray (before any thing further is done with the ſupplement to the poor laws) that your Honorable Houſe will appoint a committee to examine into the ſtate of the affairs of this inſtitution, and particularly to inveſtigate the accounts of all monies received and expended for the uſe of the poor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, appointed to arrange and report on the Meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That that part of the Meſſage which reſpects the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, together with the letter from the Honorable *John Bayard* and *Charles Pettit*, Eſquires, the letter from *William Patterſon*, and the letter from *John Franklin* and others, on the ſame ſubject, tranſmitted with the Meſſage, be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Miller*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Trail*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the Meſſage which relates to an improved inland navigation between the waters of *Allegheny* and *Suſquehanna*, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Creigh*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the Meſſage which reſpects the convention of the ſtates, propoſed by the commonwealth of *Virginia*, be referred to Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Clymer*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the Meſſage which recommends the aſcertaining, by law, the *good character* of foreigners who may be deſirous of becoming citizens of this commonwealth, conformably to the 42d ſection of the frame of government, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *A. Erwin*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Creigh*, Mr. *Spyker*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Edgar*, Mr. *Smilie*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Orth*, being a member from the city and each county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, Deputy Surveyor, praying for compenſation for ſervices rendered, be referred to Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Scott* and Mr. *A. Erwin*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Henry Bedkin*, praying to be placed on the liſt of officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Miller*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of *Gunning Bedford* and others, praying for payment of work done on the Triumphal Arch, erected on account of the late peace with *Great-Britain*, be referred to Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Edgar*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading and further conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth "the fidelity and allegiance of the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip.*"

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain "the number of taxable inhabitants within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within "each of the counties of this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 1, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Jacob Mytinger*, late Lieutenant in Captain *Van Heer*'s independent corps of light dragoons, was read, ſetting forth, that he continued in the ſervice from the year 1776 until the end of the war; and praying this Houſe to grant him a proportionable part of the donation lands, ſet apart for the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, ſtiling themſelves a committee repreſenting fourteen of the principal townſhips in ſaid county, was read, ſtating divers reaſons wherefore the petition from the thirteen Juſtices of the Peace, read *December* 24th laſt, ought not to be conſidered as an evidence of the ſenſe of the inhabitants of the ſame county reſpecting the removal of the ſeat of juſtice from *Newtown*; and praying that the ſame may be removed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An eſtimate of the monies requiſite for repairing the court-houſe, priſon and other public buildings at *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, and of the value of the ſame when repaired, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Peter January*, *John Purdon*, *Robert Aitkin*, *William Richards* and *Frazier Kinſley*, ruling elders, members of corporation, and others, members in unity with the religious ſociety or congregation in this city, known by the name of *The Scotch Preſbyterian Church in Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid congregation, or perſons on their behalf, did, in the year 1771, purchaſe three ſeveral lots of ground, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a church or place of worſhip, and alſo for a burial-ground, for the uſe of the ſaid ſociety, and thereon did, at their own expence, and with the aſſiſtance of pious perſons, erect and finiſh a decent houſe of worſhip; that on purchaſing the ſaid ground, it was thought neceſſary to veſt the title in certain members of the ſaid congregation, for the uſe thereof, and alſo to execute a deed of truſt; that in the execution of the ſaid deed of truſt a clauſe hath been introduced, the force and legal operation of which was not obſerved at the time, whereby they are not only determined by the religious tenets and fundamental doctrines of the church in *Scotland*, from which they acknowledge themſelves to have originated; they acknowledge themſelves bound to coincide and to be in unity therewith; but there is alſo in the ſaid deed of truſt a binding clauſe, which they apprehend ſubjects them to the ſole and excluſive government and definitive determination of the ſaid church of *Scotland* in matters of mere œconomy and church government; that they cannot think it conſiſtent with the peace of their church, or with the proſperity of their preſent ſituation, as members of a free and ſovereign ſtate, to be ſubordinate to and under the controul of a foreign juriſdiction in matters of internal œconomy, or to hold the eſtate they poſſeſs at the will of perſons beyond ſeas, who may, in ſubtile expoſitions of faith or ſuppoſed errors in conduct, find cauſe to declare them excommunicate, and ſo diveſt them of the property they have purchaſed, and for which they have in part paid, and in part remain bound as individuals; therefore pray a committee may be appointed, to whom their cauſe of complaint may be more fully made known, to enquire into the premiſes, and to recommend ſuch mode of redreſs as to the ſaid committee may appear reaſonable and meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from 114 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The Remonſtrance of a Majority of the votable Freeholders and Electors of the County of Dauphin.

YOUR remonſtrants beg leave to expreſs their great concern and anxiety of mind wherewith they are impreſſed, when they obſerve a bill lately printed for public conſideration, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to the commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip.*"

Your remonſtrants beg leave further to obſerve, that they cannot conceive any advantage would ariſe to the commonwealth by admitting a number of perſons to the rights of citizenſhip, who have, ſince the commencement of hoſtilities between his *Britannic* Majeſty and the *American* ſtates, been our avowed enemies, and who ſtill continue to ſpurn at and hold in contempt every meaſure that was taken to repel the force of a cruel, mercileſs and avaricious foe.

Your remonſtrants are therefore of opinion, that the late non-jurors have already been admitted to privileges far ſurpaſſing the demerits of their paſt conduct, and therefore cannot brook the moſt diſtant idea of ſeeing thoſe perſons, who have indulged themſelves at home in peace and ſecurity, reſtored to the ſame privileges of thoſe who have hazarded their lives, and waſted their eſtates, in the defence of that liberty, which they (then) treated with the moſt inſolent diſdain and contempt.

Your memorialiſts and remonſtrants are further of opinion, that it would be very improper, and altogether inconſiſtent with the freedom and ſafety of the ſtate, to admit perſons to the rights of citizenſhip, who have always been enemies to the cauſe of liberty, and injurious to the independence of the *American* ſtates.

Therefore we would once more obſerve, that in caſe your Honorable Body will proceed to enact laws contrary to the minds of your conſtituents, and repugnant to the welfare of the ſtate, that we will be under the neceſſity of defending that liberty, for which many of our brave fellow citizens ſacrificed their lives to obtain, by ſome other means than that of remonſtrance, prayer or petition; therefore hopes that your Honorable Body will not adopt any meaſure, that will reduce to the diſagreeable alternative of once more lifting arms in defence of our rights.

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſaid petition lie on the table?*—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *R. Morris,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Joſeph Thomas,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *Frederick Watts,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
9 *Peter Burkhalter,*
10 *Robert Brown,*
11 *John Piper,*
12 *Frederick Antes,*
13 *Samuel Dale,*
14 *William Todd,*
15 *John M'Dowell,*
16 *James Edgar,*
17 *John Smilie,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Abraham Smith,*
20 *John Rhea,*
21 *Adam Orth,*
22 *Robert Clark,*
23 *David Krouſe,*
24 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.
1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Thomas Bull,*
13 *John Hannum,*
14 *Robert Smith,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Jonathan Morris,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Abraham Scott,*
23 *Henry Miller,*
24 *David M'Conaughy,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *Philip Gartner,*
27 *Joſeph Lilly,*
28 *Henry Tyſon,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *John Carothers,*
31 *John Creigh,*
32 *Abraham Lincoln,*
33 *Nicholas Lutz,*
34 *Henry Spyker,*
35 *David Davis,*
36 *Robert Trail,*
37 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
38 *George Woods,*
39 *John Hughes,*
40 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
41 *Robert Loller,*
42 *Peter Richards,*
43 *Samuel Wheeler.*

So it was carried in the negative.

A memorial and remonſtrance from 244 of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the ſubjects thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip,*" and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of *Philip Dalby*, read *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Lowrey*, to report thereon.

The petition of the ſociety of the Seventh-day Baptiſts, reſiding within the townſhips of *Eaſt* and *Weſt Nantmill*, and parts adjacent, in the county of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of *York-town*, in the county of *York*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The repreſentation and petition of a committee of the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh*, read *February* 25th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the miniſter, elders and members of the Preſbyterian church at *Silver-Spring*, in the county of *Cumberland*, read *February* 23d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The remonſtrance and petition of the managers, elected by the contributors to the relief and employment of the poor in the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Work*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Wheeler*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the prayer of the ſaid remonſtrance and petition.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Mulberry* ward, in the city of *Philadelphia*, were read, praying that the line of diviſion of ſaid ward may be by *Saſſafras-ſtreet*, from *Front-ſtreet* to *Schuylkill*, and not by *Third-ſtreet*, as propoſed by the bill for erecting part of ſaid ward into a new ward.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 25th laſt, on the petition of *Elizabeth Ferguſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *December* 24th laſt, on the petition of *Andrew Henderſon* and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation belonging to* St. Peter'*s Church, in the* Great Valley, *in the townſhip of* Tredyffrin, "*and county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills, having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for the incorporating the congregation of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church, commonly called* Bangor *Church, and School, in* Church-town, Carnarvon *townſhip, and county of* Lancaſter.

An ACT *for the further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United States of* America, *and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *March* 2, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Reverend *William Marſhall*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that at a meeting of ſundry members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church laſt evening, a remonſtrance againſt the petition of their brethren was framed, which will be tranſcribed and ſigned by the Miniſter, ſome members of corporation, and others, members of the ſaid church, and then preſented to the Houſe; therefore praying that no order may be taken on the ſaid petition, until the remonſtrance be received.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſetting forth, that while the city of *Philadelphia* was poſſeſſed by the *Britiſh* army, during the late war, impreſſed with the urgent neceſſity of exerting every meaſure to avert the then impending danger, which had become the more alarming by the vicinity of the enemy, they contributed their money for promoting the general cauſe, conceiving it perfectly immaterial whether it was loaned to Congreſs in *New-Jerſey* or *Pennſylvania*; and as the loan-office for this ſtate was then at *Lancaſter*, and the road thereto occupied by the enemy, when that for the ſtate of *New-Jerſey* was held at *Trenton*, in their neighbourhood, they were induced to depoſit their monies there; that notwithſtanding ſundry laws have been paſſed in *New-Jerſey* for the payment of intereſt on the public loans, no proviſion hath been made for them, as they are not citizens of that ſtate; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Robinſon*, of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he became ſecurity for *Peter Robinſon*, his late brother, for the faithful diſcharge of his duty as a collector of militia fines; that the ſaid *Peter Robinſon*, for a conſiderable time before his death, was deprived of his reaſon, and by this unhappy ſtate of inſanity was rendered incapable of ſettling his accounts; that after his death, there appeared to be due to the commonwealth *one hundred and forty pounds nine ſhillings and nine-pence*, for the recovery of which money a ſuit at law was inſtituted againſt the petitioner, for which his effects are now under execution, ſo that, unleſs he is relieved by the interpoſition of the Houſe, inevitable ruin awaits him and his family; that the only property left by his ſaid late brother are two certificates of ſervices rendered, amounting, with the intereſt accrued thereon, to the ſum of *ninety-four pounds ſix ſhillings and three-pence*; therefore praying that the Comptroller-General may be directed to receive the ſaid certificates, in part diſcharge of the aforeſaid debt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift* was read, ſetting forth, that their forefathers, at great coſt and expence, erected and ſupported a ferry acroſs *Neſhaminy* creek, on the great high-way from the city of *Philadelphia* to *New-York*; that the ſaid ferry is now in poſſeſſion of the petitioners as a family eſtate, which they have maintained with reputation through all the hardſhips and difficulties of the late war; that they have purchaſed materials, and entered into a contract for building a floating bridge, which is nearly compleated; that they have ſeen an extract of a petition to the Houſe from *Charles Beſſonett* and *Gerſhom Johnſon*, praying leave to bring in a bill for preventing the erection of ſaid bridge, which, if granted, will go near eventually to ruin them; therefore praying to be allowed to compleat the ſaid bridge.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of the ſubſcribers of the remonſtrance and petition of the freeholders and others, proprietors of, intereſted in, and affected by the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill*, was read, reſpecting the operation of the late law regulating ſaid fiſheries, and ſuggeſting divers alterations thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Hamilton* was read, praying to be appointed Recorder of Deeds and Regiſter for the Probate of Wills in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, ſetting forth, that they are impreſſed with a full ſenſe of the wiſhes and endeavours of the Houſe again to reſtore, after a bloody and ſevere war, that confidence and harmony, which are ſo eſſentially neceſſary in our preſent ſituation, and which alone can make us a bleſſed and happy people; that they are at the ſame time fully ſenſible, that until ſome of the moſt principal obſtacles are removed, theſe ſalutary matters cannot poſſibly be accompliſhed, and it is the duty of a free people, whenever they conceive themſelves aggrieved or oppreſſed, by laws which do not anſwer the ends for which they were originally deſigned, and have become alarming and oppreſſive, to lay the ſame before their repreſentatives, and then, with due ſubmiſſion, they conceive it becomes equally the duty of the legiſlature to hearken to their complaints, and reſtore their confidence, by removing the cauſes of their grievances, and eſtabliſh government in the contentment and harmony of the people; therefore beg leave to addreſs the Houſe, particularly reſpecting the militia and teſt-laws, the firſt whereof has become in its operations exceedingly grievous and oppreſſive, particularly in the ſaid county, where it is executed, without reſpect to circumſtances, with the utmoſt rigour, and attended with the ruin of many poor families; that in its preſent ſtate it appears calculated only to diſtreſs people, without anſwering the ſmalleſt good purpoſes to the commonwealth whatever; that to many it is oppreſſive, and to others lucrative; and they are bold to affirm, that it is chiefly from thoſe cauſes the complaints of the non-payment of our unavoidable and neceſſary taxes ariſe; that the cries of the many poor and diſtreſſed on this ſubject, they are perſuaded, have or will not paſs unnoticed by the Houſe, in whom they ſeek for help, and in whom they hope for redreſs, by a reviſion of the laws, which may be made leſs burthenſome; that they do not think it neceſſary to ſay much at this time reſpecting the teſt-laws, as they find, by the minutes of the laſt ſeſſion, they have become a ſubject of the moſt ſerious deliberation, and they rejoice to find its ſupport and progreſs; and praying a continuance of the attention of the Houſe thereto, as an object of which ſight ought not to be loſt, as the iſſue in a reviſion thereof will bleſs many thouſands, and draw upon the Houſe the eſteem and confidence of an impartial and grateful people.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial and addreſs of Captain *James Murray*, read *December* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Trail* and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

The memorial of *Robert Caldwell,* read *February* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Todd* and Mr. *Edgar,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* “ An Act to ſuſ- “ pend an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled “ A “ Supplement to an act, entituled “ An Act to enable *William Clingan, Tho-* “ *mas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph* “ *Davis,* to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of *Cheſter,* and “ ſell the old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of *Cheſter,*” was read the third time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Spyker,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Friday,* the 10th inſtant.

Agreeably to leave given yeſterday, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “ *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Silver Spring, *in* “ *the county of* Cumberland,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to* “ *alter and amend an act, entituled* “ An Act to remedy the defects of the “ ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of “ Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent “ mode of holding ſuch elections; and to authoriſe the Juſtices of the Peace “ of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city; and “ to make further proviſion for the due election and return of Juſtices of the “ Peace elect,” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 3, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election, held in purſuance of the writ iſſued the 17th day of *December* laſt, in and for the county of *Lancaſter,* for a repreſentative in the General Aſſembly, in the room of *Edward Hand,* Eſquire, who reſigned, was preſented to the chair, and read, whereby it appeared that *William Parr,* Eſquire, was duly elected therefor: Thereupon,

William Parr, Eſquire, appearing at the table, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia,* and diſtricts annexed, were read, of a ſimilar tenor to that read *February* 25th laſt, reſpecting the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the poor-* “ *laws of this commonwealth.*”

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, Mr. *Robert Clark,* preſented to the Speaker a paper, which he ſaid was a memorial and remonſtrance from a majority of the votable freeholders of *Dauphin* county, againſt the propoſed reviſion of the teſt-laws. The Speaker, after having peruſed it, informed the Houſe that it was of a ſimilar tenor to the memorial from the ſame county, which was diſmiſſed by the Houſe on *Wedneſday*, the 1ſt inſtant, for the improper terms it contained. Whereupon,

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſaid memorial and remonſtrance be read?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Orth*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Clark*,
2 *Arthur Erwin*,
3 *John Smith*,
4 *Joſeph Thomas*,
5 *Robert Whitehill*,
6 *Frederick Watts*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
9 *Peter Burkhalter*,
10 *Robert Brown*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *Frederick Antes*,

YEAS.

13 *Samuel Dale*,
14 *William Todd*,
15 *John M‘Dowell*,
16 *James Edgar*,
17 *John Smilie*,
18 *James M‘Calmont*,
19 *Abraham Smith*,
20 *John Rhea*,
21 *Adam Orth*,
22 *Robert Clark*,
23 *David Krouſe*,
24 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *James Irvine*,
5 *George Clymer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Thomas Bull*,
14 *John Hannum*,
15 *Robert Smith*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Jonathan Morris*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Alexander Lowrey*,
21 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
22 *Joſeph Work*,
23 *Abraham Scott*,

NAYS.

24 *William Parr*,
25 *Henry Miller*,
26 *David M‘Conaughy*,
27 *Michael Schmyſer*,
28 *Philip Gartner*,
29 *Joſeph Lilly*,
30 *Henry Tyſon*,
31 *Adam Eichelberger*,
32 *John Carothers*,
33 *John Creigh*,
34 *Abraham Lincoln*,
35 *Nicholas Lutz*,
36 *Henry Spyker*,
37 *David Davis*,
38 *Baltſer Gehr*,
39 *Robert Trail*,
40 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
41 *George Woods*,
42 *John Hughes*,
43 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
44 *Robert Loller*,
45 *Peter Richards*,
46 *Samuel Wheeler*.

So it was carried in the negative.

A memorial, ſigned by 624 of the inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

IMPRESSED with a juſt ſenſe of the ineſtimable bleſſing of freedom, and conſidering, as we ought, that an impartial adminiſtration of juſtice is the fundamental principle of the Conſtitution, and that the ſecurity of property, be it little or much, or to whoever it may belong, is one of the chief ends of government, We conceive it our bounden duty to watch over the conduct of thoſe, whom our free ſuffrages, as a free people, have entruſted with the management of public affairs, ſo as at all times to guard againſt a remiſſneſs of duty, or a wanton or incautious exerciſe of power on their part.

Impreſſed, we ſay, with theſe ideas and principles, we are led to ſtate to this Honorable Houſe, a matter, in which, as it appears on the printed minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, there has not been that proper and impartial attention paid, which the principles of the Conſtitution and the true end of government require.

The caſe we refer to is as follows:

On the 21ſt of *March* laſt petitions from ſundry inhabitants of *Cheſter* county were preſented to the Houſe and read. Thoſe petitions began by ſtating a number of charges and allegations againſt the Bank of *North-America*, but without making or offering proof or evidence of their being true, and praying that the charter of the ſaid bank may be repealed.

On the 23d, in the morning, two other petitions to the ſame purport were preſented and read for the firſt time, and read again for a ſecond time on the ſame day. Whereupon, on motion made and ſeconded, they were referred to a committee, to *enquire* and report thereon.

We conceive it to be an indiſpenſible principle, that whenever the property of any of the citizens of this commonwealth is to be affected by the charges and allegations of any man or number of men, that the charges and allegations ſhould be proved, and that the party ſo charged and accuſed ſhall be heard in its defence; and that it is a departure from the principles of the conſtitution, for the repreſentatives of the people to take any ſuch charges and allegations as matters of truth, without proof or evidence of their being ſo, and that for any Houſe of Aſſembly to proceed thereon, to the injury of the property of any of our fellow citizens, without evidence had and defence heard, is unconſtitutional, and that no law ſo obtained or paſſed can be operative, becauſe it is repugnant to the principles of juſtice and the conſtitution.

Your memorialiſts are deeply concerned to have occaſion to obſerve, and as citizens are deeply intereſted in the obſervation, that it does not appear, either from the report of the committee to whom the ſaid petitions, charges and allegations were committed, or from any other proceedings of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, that any enquiry was made, or any proof or evidence had or produced of the ſaid charges and allegations being true: Yet the ſaid Houſe proceeded to bring in a bill, which has in it the nature of a *ſentence*, on the *ſuppoſed* truth of the ſaid charges and allegations, inſtead of enquiring into and aſcertaining them by proof and evidence—the title of which bill is, "*An "Act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act to incorporate the ſub-"ſcribers to the Bank of *North-America*," &c.

Your memorialiſts are further concerned to obſerve, that when the perſons whoſe property was immediately to be affected by the paſſing this bill into a law applied by petition to be heard in their defence, and, of conſequence, againſt the ſaid charges and allegations, on the ſuppoſed truth of which the aforeſaid bill was founded, that the ſaid Houſe refuſed to hear them, thereby denying them that right which every citizen of this commonwealth is entitled to.

Your Memorialiſts find by the printed minutes of the late Houſe, *April* 4th, that when the ſaid bill was called up for a ſecond reading, that a motion was made by Mr. *Pettit*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Willing*, that the memorial of the Preſident, Directors and Company of the Bank of *North-America*, praying to be heard, be read; and on the queſtion that the prayer of the ſaid memorial be granted, in was negatived. See *April* 4th, page 284.

Your Memorialiſts think it right to remark, that thoſe proceedings of the late Houſe, and of their committee, afford a ſtrong preſumption to many good citizens that the charges and allegations againſt the Bank are ill founded and not true; and that other cauſes than thoſe which have been aſſigned, are to be looked for as the true cauſes for the vehement attack on the Bank.

Your Memorialiſts further find by the ſaid printed minutes (*April* 4th, page 284) that immediately after the ſaid prayer, "to be heard," was rejected, that the Houſe went into the ſecond reading of the ſaid bill, without any enquiry into the truth of the charges and allegations aforeſaid, and having finiſhed the ſaid ſecond reading, the bill, as is uſual, was ordered to be publiſhed for public conſideration.

On this part of the proceedings your Memorialiſts conceive it their duty, as well as their right as citizens, to remark——

That the publiſhing the bill for the public to conſider upon, without (the Houſe) having firſt inveſtigated the charges and allegations againſt the Bank, which were the moving cauſes of the proceedings of the Houſe, and on the ſuppoſed truth of which the ſaid bill was founded, and without hearing the defence of the parties ſo charged and alledged againſt, was bringing the bill before the public in a very partial and incomplete manner; becauſe it was leaving the public in the dark as to the truth or exiſtence of the matters on which their conſideration was to be exerciſed, and with-holding from them the knowledge on which their judgment was to be formed. It was impoſſible the public could, by any conſideration of theirs, determine or know whether the matters charged on the Bank were true or falſe. Conſideration has no proper object to go upon when applied to charges without evidence, and ſtill leſs ſo when applied to a ſentence, without having both the evidence and the defence. The bill, then ordered to be publiſhed, had in it the nature of a ſentence, and nothing can appear to us more inconſiſtent than that of publiſhing a ſentence for the conſideration of the public, and for the purpoſe of obtaining the concurrence or opinion of the public thereon, and ſuppreſſing the matters on which that ſentence is founded.

Your Memorialiſts are much concerned to find ſuch deviations from, if not direct violations of, the conſtitution, and that within ſo ſhort a time after the late Convention had pointed out defects of a ſimilar nature in the conduct of former Aſſemblies.

Your Memorialiſts are further induced to obſerve—That on the queſtion itſelf, reſpecting the repealing the charter of the Bank, they feel themſelves under ſome uneaſy ſenſations and apprehenſions. At any rate it is breaking the word and promiſe of the ſtate, publicly pledged but a ſhort time before.— A meaſure, which at the firſt view holds out to the world a faithleſs diſpoſition in *Pennſylvania*, and puts all kind of credit, public and private, on a precarious footing.—A meaſure, of which the power to do it may be litigated, becauſe it may be made a queſtion whether any law can warrant the doing an unlawful thing. Therefore the repealing a charter, being a ſtep of the utmoſt delicacy and danger, requires to be gone into with the niceſt care, and the moſt cautious and ſcrupulous inveſtigation. If any cauſes can juſtify ſuch proceeding, thoſe cauſes ought to be made viſible to the world, or our credit with the world is wounded, if not ended. For who will truſt a government that aſſumes the power of breaking its word, or who will truſt the individuals of a country that live under ſuch a government? The paper money of one Houſe may be voted down by the next, and the engagements of one Aſſembly be ſuperceded by its ſucceſſors. It will be of little uſe to us afterwards to ſay that this member of the Aſſembly, or that member of the Aſſembly, or any number of them, or party of them, were the perſons who did it. Thoſe perſons may be returned to the rank of private citizens, or departed the ſtate, when the miſchiefs they ſhall have occaſioned ſhall take place.

But your Memorialiſts are diſtreſſed to obſerve, that inſtead of caution and inveſtigation, inſtead of preciſion and deliberation, they find the buſineſs taken up on the ſlighteſt grounds, and conducted with a ſpirit of haſte and precipitancy, extremely ill ſuited to the nature and importance of the ſubject.

Your Memorialiſts find by the printed minutes of the late Houſe, that the petitions againſt the Bank were read twice in the ſame day, referred to a committee to *enquire* and report thereon, and the report of that committee delivered in, not the very next day, but the day after,—That report read a firſt and ſecond time, debated and reſolved upon, and a ſecond committee appointed to bring in a bill, and that bill brought in and read, and all this within the ſpace of ſix days, *viz.* from the 23d to the 29th of *March*; for the truth of which we refer to the printed minutes of the Houſe.

When we conſider the extenſive nature of the caſe, the variety of knowledge neceſſary to collect, to form a judgment upon, and the probable danger of ſuch a proceeding to public and private credit, we muſt declare, upon our own knowledge and opinion of the nature of the ſubject, that neither the time, nor the attention beſtowed, was equal to the importance of it.

Your Memorialiſts find that the late Houſe of Aſſembly having neglected to enquire into the truth of the charges and allegations againſt the Bank, and yet taken up theſe charges and allegations as true, refuſing at the ſame time to grant the prayer of the proprietors of the Bank to be heard in their defence, publiſhed the aforeſaid bill for, what is called, public conſideration, and adjourned ſoon after to the 23d of *Auguſt* following.

As the ſaid bill, during the receſs of the Houſe, was before the public in the imperfect ſtate we have already mentioned, it was impoſſible for the public to form any judgment upon it, becauſe the facts and matters on which they were to judge were with-held from them, and therefore the publication of it could not anſwer the purpoſes intended by the Conſtitution: But if any judgment is to be formed from the general elections which took place ſoon after the paſſing this bill, we may conclude it met with great diſapprobation, becauſe ſo many of the members who voted for it have been diſplaced by their conſtituents; and we cannot doubt that as this darkſome buſineſs comes to be better known, and more illuminated, and the true intereſt of *Pennſylvania* fuller underſtood, that a more extenſive reprobation will take place; for it is natural that a free people ſhould abhor the reproach of being a faithleſs one, and impoſſible they ſhould countenance a meaſure which has the appearance of deſpotiſm.

Your Memorialiſts find, that on the meeting of the late Houſe for their laſt ſitting, on the 23d of *Auguſt*, that the Preſident, Directors and Company of the Bank of *North-America* renewed their application to the Houſe for a hearing; and that a petition from eight perſons (ſigners to the petitions for repealing the Charter of the Bank) *viz. James Pearſon, Robert Smith, William Graham, John Barker, John Kling, George Leib, Levi Budd,* and *Frederick Heimberger*, was likewiſe preſented to the Houſe, praying to be heard in ſupport of their petitions, both which requeſts were complied with.

Your Memorialiſts find by the minutes of the late Houſe, page 356, that on the 5th of *September*, the day appointed by the Houſe for a hearing, the Preſident of the Bank preſented himſelf perſonally at the bar of the Houſe, and likewiſe by counſel; but it does not appear from the ſaid minutes, that any of the perſons who had ſigned the petitions, charges and allegations againſt the Bank, appeared perſonally to ſupport and prove them; neither does it appear that they produced ſo much as a ſingle evidence to prove what they had ſigned to, or attempted to prove it.

If therefore they have ſigned to charges and allegations which are not true, and the Houſe have acted on thoſe charges and allegations as if they were true, there is a manifeſt injury committed; and as reparation is due to the injured, as well as to the injured honor of the ſtate, your Memorialiſts confide that this honorable Houſe will take ſuch meaſures as may make the neceſſary reparation.

The charges and allegations on the part of the petitioners againſt the Bank not being attempted to be proved, the Bank could only deny them; and we find by the minutes of the Houſe, that the matter ended in a verbal litigation between a counſel on each ſide, inſtead of going into an inveſtigation and proof of the charges advanced, on the ſuppoſed truth of which the Houſe had acted.

On this part of the buſineſs your Memorialiſts think it neceſſary to obſerve, that the refuſing the Bank a hearing in the firſt ſtage of the buſineſs, before the bill was publiſhed for public conſideration, and admitting the Bank to a hearing at the very latter part of the ſeſſion, was precluding the judgment of the public upon the caſe, becauſe the publication of the bill and the time for public conſideration was paſſed, and no new matter which any hearing at that time could produce, could have time or opportunity to be publicly known.

Had the hearing been before the ſecond reading of the bill, and conſequently before it was to be publiſhed for public conſideration, which was the requeſt the Bank made, the public would then have known that the petitioners againſt the Bank had not proved their charges and allegations, and this would have been matter for the public to have exerciſed their conſideration and judgment upon; but of this they were precluded by their Repreſentatives.

That the charges and allegations againſt the Bank are ill-grounded and not true, is naturally to be inferred from their not being proved, nor attempted to be proved—And that the prayer of the petitioners againſt the Bank is founded on very ill and dangerous principles, ſubverſive of the good of ſociety, and of the fundamentals of the conſtitution, and of all true government, is beſt inferred from the prayer itſelf, which we here ſubjoin.

" Therefore," ſay the petitioners, " in order to reſtore public confidence " and private ſecurity, we pray, that a bill may be brought in, and paſſed " into a law, for repealing the law for incorporating the Bank."—On which we remark, that nothing can be more dangerous in principle and practice, and more abſurd and monſtrous, than to pray that the government may break its word, in order to be the better believed and truſted, and violate the confidence already placed in it, in order that the people may place more,—yet ſuch is the exact prayer of their petition, for the truth of which we appeal to the printed minutes of the Houſe, and likewiſe to the petition itſelf.

Theſe are the ſubject matters which your Memorialiſts have to lay before your honorable Houſe; they are concerned there ſhould be any occaſion to do it, and ſtill more concerned there ſhould be ſo much. The watching over the conduct of the Repreſentatives is the proper duty of the citizens of a free country, and in preſenting this memorial we diſcharge the duty incumbent on us.

We therefore pray your honorable Houſe, that theſe matters may be taken into your moſt ſerious conſideration, and that either the repealing law may be repealed, or a bill be brought in to ſuſpend the operation of it, until your honorable Houſe can obtain full information on the ſubject.

And your Memorialiſts, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring* " *to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the ſubjects thereof, and for* " *admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip,*" was read the third time, and taken up by paragraphs.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Therefore be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That each and every of the male white inhabitants of this commonwealth, who, by reaſon of having omitted or neglected to take and ſubſcribe all or any of the oaths or affirmations of allegiance and fidelity to this commonwealth, as required by the ſeveral laws thereof, or any of them, is or has been debarred of any of the rights of citizenſhip, ſhall, immediately from and after his taking and ſubſcribing before any Juſtice of the Peace of the ward, townſhip or diſtrict wherein he reſides, or, in caſe there is no Juſtice of the Peace within ſuch ward, townſhip or diſtrict, then, and in that caſe only, before the neareſt Juſtice of the Peace to where ſuch perſon reſides, the following oath of allegiance and abjuration, be, and is hereby declared to be a free citizen of this commonwealth, and entitled to all and every the rights and privileges thereof, any law of this commonwealth to the contrary notwithſtanding.

It was moved by Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Whelen*,

To ſtrike out the words, "*and abjuration*;" and carried in the negative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

The oath or affirmation to be as follows, *viz.*

" I, *A. B.* do ſwear (or ſolemnly, ſincerely and truly declare and affirm) that I renounce and refuſe all allegiance to *George* the Third, King of *Great-Britain*, his heirs and ſucceſſors; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, as a free and independent ſtate; and that I will not at any time do, or cauſe to be done, any matter or thing, that will be prejudicial or injurious to the freedom and independence thereof: And I do further ſwear (or ſolemnly, ſincerely and truly declare and affirm) that I never have, ſince the declaration of the independence of the

United States of *America*, voluntarily joined, aided, aſſiſted or abetted the King of *Great-Britain*, his generals, fleets or armies, or their adherents (knowing them to be ſuch) whilſt employed againſt the United States, or either of them."

It was moved Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

To ſtrike out the words, "*And I do further ſwear (or ſolemnly, ſincerely and truly declare and affirm) that I never have, ſince the declaration of the independence of the United States of* America, *voluntarily joined, aided, aſſiſted or abetted the King of* Great-Britain, *his generals, fleets or armies, or their adherents (knowing them to be ſuch) whilſt employed againſt the ſaid United States, or either of them;*"—and carried in the negative.

The ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the number of taxable inhabitants within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each of the counties within this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *March* 4, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John White*, of *Lower Makefield* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he purchaſed the poſſeſſion of the firſt iſland in the river *Delaware*, above the falls at *Trenton*, commonly known by the name of *Logan*'s or *Gold*'s iſland, and paid taxes therefor to this ſtate; that by an act paſſed the twentieth day of *September*, 1783, confirming the agreement entered into between the commiſſioners of this ſtate and the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*, it is declared "that all iſlands, iſlets and dry lands, within the bed and between the ſhores of the ſaid river, and between the ſtation point northwardly and the falls of *Trenton* ſouthwardly, ſhall, as to juriſdiction, be hereafter deemed and conſidered as parts and parcels of the ſtate to which ſuch inſulated dry lands lie neareſt, at the time of making and executing the ſaid agreement;" that the commiſſioners appointed by this ſtate and that of *New-Jerſey*, ſince the paſſing the aforeſaid act, have determined that the ſaid *Logan*'s or *Gold*'s iſland ſhall be added to the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*, notwithſtanding it is ſeven or eight perches nearer to this ſtate than *New-Jerſey*; and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, praying commiſſioners may be appointed to examine and lay out the moſt convenient and direct road from the *Wind-Gap* of the *Blue Mountain* to *Wyoming*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from the Miniſter, ſome members of the corporation, and others, members of *The Scots Preſbyterian Church in* Philadelphia, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The Remonſtrance of the Miniſter, ſome Members of the Corporation, and others, Members of The Scots Preſbyterian Church, in *Philadelphia,*

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT it gives us very ſenſible pain that the animoſities of our church ſhould be expoſed to the public eye, and a diſſatisfaction with the conſtitutional principles thereof ſhould claim the interference of the legiſlature of this ſtate; but as our brethren, privately, and without acquainting the miniſter, or calling a meeting of the congregation, though requeſted thereto, have drawn up a petition, praying this honorable Houſe to alter a clauſe in the declaration of truſt, and ſome through inadvertence have ſigned it, we crave the indulgence of this Houſe while we lay before them the following ſtate of facts:

The ſeceſſion from the eſtabliſhed Church of *Scotland* took place in the year 1733, on account of the various corruptions which prevailed in that church, particularly ſettling miniſters by the act of patronage, without the conſent of the chriſtian people. Notwithſtanding of the ſeceſſion body dividing into two ſeparate communions in 1747, yet the Aſſociate Synod, with which we are connected, conſiſts of about one hundred miniſters, and near one hundred thouſand people.

In the year 1750, the Rev. Mr. *Craighead,* with a number of ſober people in *Pennſylvania,* applied to ſaid Synod of *Edinburgh* to be taken under their inſpection: The Synod, after mature deliberation, ſent over the Reverend Meſſieurs *Galletly* and *Arnot,* with full power to conſtitute themſelves, with ruling Elders, into a Preſbytery. The Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſylvania* being conſtituted, various applications were made from people in this and neighbouring provinces (now ſtates) to ſupply which Miniſters were wanted: Accordingly ſaid Synod, at various times, ſent over Miniſters, to the number of twelve, moſt of whom had their expences of coming hither defrayed by ſaid Synod, to a very conſiderable amount.

The Miniſters and people of this communion, though in a ſtate of eccleſiaſtic ſubbordination, found no difficulty in taking an active part in the late revolution, and oppoſing the unjuſt claims of *Britain* on *America.* They never apprehended that their being *American* whigs was any way inconſiſtent with their religious connection in *Great-Britain;* nor have the Aſſociate Synod ever diſapproved of our conduct therein, but, on the contrary, have ſhewed the ſame friendly diſpoſition as before, and even ſince that time have ſent us ſupplies as formerly.

In the year 1764, a number of perſons in *Philadelphia* addreſſed the Aſſociate Preſbytery for ſermon. After ſome time a ſmall houſe was built by ſubſcription, in *Shippen-ſtreet,* now occupied by the Reverend Mr. *Telfer* and his congregation: The lot of ground on which it ſtands was taken out in the name of a perſon originally of the communion of the other branch of the Seceſſion: He took care, in conveying the premiſes to certain truſtees, to inſert a clauſe in the declaration of truſt, by which that property was ſecured to thoſe of that communion, according to the laws of *Pennſylvania.*

In the year 1768, the congregation thus formed applied to the Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſylvania* for a miniſter, and the paſtor who now officiates was unanimouſly choſen by the people. To ſhew the nature of this ſolemn contract, and the ſenſe of the congregation concerning their connection with the Aſſociate Synod, we now inſert the preamble to the call for ſaid miniſter: " We, the Elders and other Members of the Aſſociate Congregation of *Phila-*" *delphia*, who have acceded to the Lord's cauſe and teſtimony, as profeſſed, " witneſſed for, and maintained by the Aſſociate Synod in *Scotland*, and the " ſeveral Preſbyteries in *Scotland* and *Ireland* ſubordinate thereto," &c. Said call was ſubſcribed by *John Purdon*, *Peter January*, *William Richards*, *Frazer Kinſley*, *John Davidſon* and *Samuel M'Clure*, who, notwithſtanding, have ſigned the petition againſt which we now remonſtrate.

In the courſe of a few years ſaid place of worſhip became too ſmall to accommodate the congregation; and well knowing that, by the aforeſaid clauſe in the declaration of truſt, we could at any time be deprived of it, we reſolved to build another. Accordingly, in the year 1771, the place of worſhip we now occupy was built, and a declaration of truſt executed. When it is remembered that all the expence the congregation were at in building the houſe in *Shippen-ſtreet* was loſt to them, it was natural to endeavour to ſecure, in the moſt legal manner, the preſent place of worſhip, and ſo to define our religious principles with the greateſt accuracy, to prevent its being wreſted from us by any ſett of men who might change their religious views, and ſeek to apply our church property to uſes for which it was not originally intended.

The clauſe, which our ſituation renders abſolutely neceſſary, and which we apprehend the petitioners want this honorable Houſe to expunge, is, " And " the aforeſaid building was ſo erected for the uſe and ſervice of the aforeſaid " congregation, continuing their adherence to the religious principles above " expreſſed, and their ſubordination to the Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſyl-*" *vania*, or another Preſbytery of the ſame denomination, as the ſaid Preſby-" tery is ſubordinated to the Aſſociate Synod of *Edinburgh*, in *Scotland*, " whereof the Reverend Meſſieurs *William Moncrieff*, Miniſter of the goſpel " at *Alloa*, *James Allice*, Miniſter of the goſpel at *Paiſley*, and *John Wilſon*, " Miniſter of the goſpel at *Methven*, are at preſent members."—(The true intent why theſe three Miniſters names were inſerted, was to define what religious body we belonged to, and we conceive that no other conſtruction can fairly be put upon theſe words.)

When the honorable Houſe of Aſſembly, in 1779, granted a charter to ſaid church, it is particularly inſerted, " That the ſame lands, tenements, " rents, annuities, liberties, franchiſes, and other hereditaments, are hereby " veſted and eſtabliſhed in the ſaid corporation, and their ſucceſſors, for ever, " *according to their original uſe and intention*," which plainly reduplicates on the above recited clauſe in the deed of truſt; and it is ſtrange that its force and legal operation ſhould never be complained of till now.

The petitioners repreſent, that " the ſaid clauſe ſubjects them to the ſole, " excluſive and definitive determination of the Synod in *Scotland*, in matters " of mere œconomy and church government;" that they " are hereby un-" der the controul of a *foreign juriſdiction* in matters of internal œconomy, " and hold the eſtate they now poſſeſs at the will of perſons beyond ſeas."

We preſume that the apprehenſions of the petitioners are groundleſs, for the following reaſons:

Firſt. That the kingdom of *Chriſt* is ſpiritual, and independent of the kingdoms of this world; therefore, our religious connection does not interfere with our being citizens of *Pennſylvania,* nor in any way are weakened by the late revolution; our ſubordination is only ſpiritual.

Second. That, as an eccleſiaſtic body, the Aſſociate Synod are entirely diſconnected with the government of *Britain*; they are not known in law; and though they give practical ſubjection to the civil powers, yet none of their communion can or will take the required oaths to government, as they judge theſe, as now impoſed, an infringement of their natural liberties and religious rights; and, therefore, our religious connection with ſaid Synod is no way inimical to the government of the United States of *North-America.*

Third. That as members of the Church of *Chriſt, we are under no juriſdiction, foreign or domeſtic*: As citizens of *Pennſylvania,* we hold it our great privilege to be under the juriſdiction of this commonwealth; but we deny that any power on earth has a right to make laws binding on our conſciences: As church members, our *Lawgiver* is CHRIST, and our *Law* is the BIBLE.

Fourth. The Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſylvania* have the full powers of ordination and government; and their proceedings were never demanded to be reviewed by the Synod of *Edinburgh*; ſaid Preſbytery has exiſted more than thirty years, and there never was an appeal carried from them to the ſaid Synod of *Edinburgh.*

Fifth. That our connection with the Aſſociate Synod is for the ſecular intereſt of this country; the Miniſters whom they have ſent have been very uſeful members of civil ſociety; and this connection has encouraged many people of our communion to emigrate hither, who have filled up various places, civil and military, with no ſmall degree of honor and reputation.

Sixth. That the Aſſociate Synod have expreſſed their views on this ſubject, in a letter wrote by their order to the Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſylvania,* dated *Edinburgh, September* 4th, 1782. "An *ordinary* ſtate of ſubordination "to the Aſſociate Synod, in acceſs to attend our meetings with a ready courſe "of references and appeals, is not indeed competent to your Preſbytery at ſuch "a diſtance; but ſtill, as there may be applications unto and aſſiſtance from "the Synod, ſo it is a matter of great conſequence to have ſuch a ſubordination "maintained, as is neceſſary unto the ſtate of being all one witneſſing body."

Seventh. That if the prayer of the petitioners ſhould be granted, and the property of our church alienated, it will render all other church property inſecure, and open a door to endleſs feuds and diſſentions: For thereby a few factious and deſigning men, in any congregation, might have it in their power to diſturb their peace, by finding fault with its fundamental articles or declaration of truſt, and then petition the Legiſlature for ſuch an alteration as might ſuit their opinions, till the Houſe of Aſſembly had all their time taken up with ſuch petitions, and became Judges in matters eccleſiaſtic. In this point of view, our remonſtrance pleads the cauſe of all religious denominations in *Pennſylvania,* who hold church property under the conſtitution and and laws of this ſtate.

Againſt this honorable Houſe granting the prayer of the petitioners, we plead the *laws* of this ſtate, which ſecure all places of worſhip to the uſes they were originally intended: We plead the *conſtitution* of *Pennſylvania,* which, in the ſecond article of the bill of rights, ſays, "Nor can any man, "who acknowledges the being of a GOD, be juſtly deprived or abridged of "any civil right as a citizen, on account of his religious ſentiments or peculiar

" liar mode of religious worſhip; and that no authority can or ought to be " veſted in or aſſumed by any power whatever, that ſhall in any caſe interfere " with, or in any manner controul the right of conſcience, in the free exer- " ciſe of religious worſhip." The 45th ſection of Conſtitution runs thus. " And all religious ſocieties or bodies of men, heretofore united or incorpo- " rated for the advancement of religion and learning, or for other pious or " charitable purpoſes, ſhall be *encouraged* and *protected* in the enjoyment of " the privileges, immunities and eſtates, which they were *accuſtomed to enjoy*, " or could of right have enjoyed, under the laws and former conſtitution of " this ſtate."

We have the honor to be, with the utmoſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, of a ſimilar tenor to the petition of the inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lawrence Bauſman*, of the townſhip of *Menallin*, in the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth, that his houſe took fire, and his title deeds to two hundred acres of land in ſaid townſhip were entirely conſumed, and praying leave to bring in a bill to confirm his title to the ſame, ſo far as the ſaid deeds relate thereto.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Robert Robinſon*, read *March* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of the members of the Preſbyterian church in the borough of *Carliſle*, in the county of *Cumberland*, read *February* 23d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *James Hamilton*, read *March* 2d, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Hughes*, ſeconded by Mr. *Woods*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the appointment of a Regiſter of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, and that the nomination continue until that day.

The memorial of divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, read *December* 2d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Morris*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Antes*, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *Andrew Henderſon*, poſtponed *March* 1ſt.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The committee appointed *February* 23d laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the northernmoſt parts of the county of *Montgomery*, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Gray*, ſeconded by Mr. *Brown*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill*."

The bill, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table: And on the queſtion,—"Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Hubley,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *John Smith,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Thomas Bull,*
15 *John Hannum,*
16 *Robert Smith,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Jonathan Morris,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Alexander Lowrey,*
22 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
23 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

24 *Abraham Scott,*
25 *William Parr,*
26 *Henry Miller,*
27 *David M'Conaughy,*
28 *Michael Schmyſer,*
29 *Philip Gartner,*
30 *Joſeph Lilly,*
31 *Henry Tyſon,*
32 *Adam Eichelberger,*
33 *John Carothers,*
34 *John Creigh,*
35 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
36 *Robert Trail,*
37 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
38 *Peter Burkhalter,*
39 *Robert Brown,*
40 *George Woods,*
41 *William Todd,*
42 *John Hughes,*
43 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
44 *Robert Loller,*
45 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Joſeph Thomas,*
4 *Robert Whitehill,*
5 *Frederick Watts,*
6 *Abraham Lincoln,*
7 *Nicholas Lutz,*
8 *Henry Spyker,*
9 *Philip Kreemer,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Baltſer Gehr,*
12 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

13 *Frederick Antes,*
14 *Samuel Dale,*
15 *John M'Dowell,*
16 *James Edgar,*
17 *John Smilie,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Abraham Smith,*
20 *John Rhea,*
21 *Adam Orth,*
22 *Robert Clark,*
23 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The following bills, having alſo been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode of holding ſuch elections; and to authoriſe the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city; and to make further proviſion for the due election and return of Juſtices of the Peace elect.

An ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal Congregation belonging to* St. Peter's *Church, in the* Great-Valley, *in the townſhip of* Tredyffrin, *and county of* Cheſter.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, *March* 6, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 655 inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, of a ſimilar tenor to the petition of the inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 3d, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 239 inhabitants of the townſhips of the *Northern Liberties* and *Germantown*, and of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor to the preceding petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 443 of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the ſettlement of *Little Cove*, in *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 408 of the inhabitants of *Wyoming*, and vicinity, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met*,

The Petition of the Freeholders at and near *Wyoming*, on the North-Eaſt Branch of the *Suſquehanna* River,

Moſt Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT your petitioners have endeavoured to take due notice of the act of Aſſembly paſſed laſt ſeſſion, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming," *&c.* but how far it reſpects us, your petitioners, we are unable fully to determine: Wherefore we pray for an explanation of ſuch parts thereof as we do not ſo readily underſtand. Does the act relative to the pardon of offences, miſdemeanors, *&c.* mean ſuch only as have been found guilty upon trial? or does it extend to all who ſtand indicted for ſuppoſed offences? or, ſtill further, does it comprehend and mean all who have acted defenſively, as well as offenſively, in the diſpute alluded to in the act? An explanatory anſwer to theſe queſtions will enable your petitioners to act conſiſtently in the matter, and ſupercede the neceſſity of ſending the militia hither to execute the laws among us.

Your petitioners view with pleaſure that paragraph of the act, that diſannuls that eſtabliſhment of diſtricts and magiſtracy here, which we have always eſteemed grievous and unconſtitutional, by the making void of which, your petitioners would fondly hope that your Honors mean to open a door for us to proceed as the thirtieth ſection of the conſtitution encourages. Purſuant thereto, we would humbly requeſt that we might be divided at preſent into two diſtricts, one on each ſide the aforeſaid river, and as extenſive as your Honors may think beſt, with the power and privilege of electing magiſtrates, *&c.* as the conſtitution directs.

Your petitioners would furthermore moſt earneſtly requeſt, that this ſettlement might be ſet off as a diſtinct county. The arguments we would humbly urge for ſuch a meaſure are,—the oblong and incommodious extenſion of the preſent county,—our local diſtance from the ſeat thereof,—the great diſadvantage we are ſubject to on account of travel, time and expences, in attending the courts,—and above all, the habitual and mutual prejudices which ſubſiſt between the upper and lower parts of the county we now ſtand annexed to, occaſioned by the diſputes reſpecting lands, *&c.* putting us under the diſadvantage of ſuch trials by jury, as is inconſiſtent with that impartiality which the ſpirit of the conſtitution intends.

Your Honors will permit us juſt to obſerve, that prior to the decree at *Trenton* we lived happy under the juriſdiction of the ſtate of *Connecticut*, and the enjoyment of her laws. We now wiſh to be received as good citizens of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and to enjoy the bleſſings of your glorious conſtitution.

Be pleaſed moſt graciouſly to take this our petition into your wiſe and candid conſideration.

And we, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 19th, on the petitions of *Michael Lindemuth* and *William May*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 16th, on the petition of *Joſeph Harriſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th, on that part of the Meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, made report, which was read; and

On motion made by Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the ſaid report.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Pittſburgh, *in the* "*county of* Weſtmoreland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Baptiſt Church in the* "*townſhip of* New-Britain, *and county of* Bucks," which was read the firſt time *February* 27th, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for complying with the requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the ſervices of the year one thouſand ſeven* "*hundred and eighty-five, and for paying one year's intereſt on the foreign and* "*domeſtic debts,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for removing the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Chapel* "*of* St. Thomas, *in* Carnarvon *townſhip,* Berks *county, and for incorporating* "*the Congregation thereof,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 7, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, *March 6th,* 1786.

SIR,

YOU will be pleaſed to lay the encloſed papers before the legiſlature.

I am, SIR,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the papers therewith tranſmitted, were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Virginia,* with the reſolution of the Houſe of Delegates of that ſtate of the 29th day of *December* laſt incloſed, on the ſubject of titles to certain lands lying within the territory lately ceded by that ſtate to this commonwealth, be referred to Mr. *Parr,* Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency the Governor of *Virginia,* together with the reſolutions of the legiſlature of that ſtate reſpecting a convention of deputies from the ſeveral ſtates, for the purpoſe of deviſing a ſyſtem of general commercial regulations, be referred to Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Clymer,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Smilie,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That the conſideration of the letter from his Excellency Governor *Smallwood,* with the reſolution of the Houſe of Delegates of the 21ſt of *February* laſt, be poſtponed until to-morrow.

A petition from *George Tudor* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of wills, &c. and Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Weſtmoreland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Cocalico* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be annexed to the firſt diſtrict for holding the annual general elections for the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Edward Williams*, late clerk and paymaſter to the hoſpital department, was read, praying to be allowed the commutation of five years full pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Stephens* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath diſcovered the art of making blue ſtone melting pots, which are equal, if not ſuperior, to black lead crucibles, and praying for a loan of *two hundred pounds* for the term of five years, without intereſt, for the purpoſe of carrying on the ſaid manufacture.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, ſetting forth, that ſhortly after the enemy evacuated this city a quantity of goods were taken from him by *William Weſt*, and delivered to *James Meaſe*, then Clothier-General, which was ſuppoſed for the uſe of the army; that having ſeveral times applied for payment without effect, he commenced a ſuit at law againſt the ſaid *Meaſe*, but a law being in force that no public officers ſhould be arreſted, the ſaid law-ſuit could not be carried on; therefore praying the ſame act may be repealed, or this Houſe to direct payment for the ſaid goods.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Truſtees of the Public School of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill ſupplementary to the act for incorporating the ſubſcribers to the ſaid ſeminary, for the purpoſes contained in ſaid petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette* counties, was read, ſetting forth, that from the rules of the county courts and the general practice of the bar they were induced to believe that an improvement right, with an actual ſettlement, or endeavoured to be carried on into actual ſettlement, as far as the inroads of the ſavages and circumſtances of the country would permit, could claim, hold and poſſeſs three hundred acres of land, beſides the uſual allowance for roads; that they have been alarmed by a late deciſion of the Judges of the ſupreme court, laſt ſeſſions, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, by which, if carried into general practice, they will be deprived of their labour by any perſon who may ungenerouſly take the advantage thereof by an office right, before they can have it in their power to pay off the purchaſe money; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 166 inhabitants of *Mulberry* ward, in the city of *Philadelphia*, of a ſimilar tenor to the petition from the city, read *March* 3d, reſpecting the repealing of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 104 of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, ſimilar to the preceding petitions, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance and petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Lebanon*, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, ſetting forth, that the boundary line directed to be run by the act for erecting the ſaid county will be very inconvenient; and praying the diviſion line may be extended along the ſouth mountain, and by the lines of the townſhips of *Lebanon* and *Heidelberg*, as the moſt natural and convenient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of the Judges of the court of common pleas for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Evans*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Leſher*, ſtating divers grievances, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was committed, *March* 4th, the report on the petition of *Andrew Henderſon*, in behalf of himſelf and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Foulke* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent week.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the payment of the principal and* "*intereſt of ſuch of the bills emitted purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act of the* "*legiſlature of this ſtate of* June *the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, *one thouſand* "*ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for lending the ſum of* five hundred pounds *to* "Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of manu-* "*facturing bar iron into ſteel*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of ſuch officers, late of the ſtate* "*navy, as were made priſoners of war previous to the derangement in the year* "*one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight, and were afterwards honorably* "*diſcharged, and of the widows and children of thoſe officers who died during their* "*captivity*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 8, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Moſes Ford* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Benſalem* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Coopers, inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed, prohibiting and reſtraining all foreigners, who have not ſerved legal apprenticeſhips in this ſtate, or ſome one of the United States, from exerciſing or proſecuting the trade of a Cooper in this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, praying that public certificates may be received in payment for unpatented lands, and that the expences of government may be leſſened.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Elders and Deacons of the reformed congregations in and about the townſhip of *Earl*, in the county of *Berks*, in behalf of themſelves and the reſt of the members of ſaid congregations, was read, ſetting forth, that they have at a conſiderable expence erected a building for public worſhip in the ſaid townſhip; that as the members are few in number, they find it difficult to raiſe money ſufficient to defray the expences thereof; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of authoriſing them to raiſe by way of lottery the ſum of *one hundred and fifty pounds*, to be applied towards defraying the expences aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from *Charles Beſſonett*, proprietor of the new bridge over *Neſhaminy* river, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer of the petition of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, read *March* 2d inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the directions of former Houſes of Aſſembly, the commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter*, in conjunction with a member of this Houſe, made report, relative to the ſeveral robberies ſaid to have been committed on *Benjamin Worrall*, *John Ratew*, *Abner Evans*, *Jonathan Thomas* and *David Cloyd*, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the petition of *Gunning Bedford*, and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for the relief of ſuch officers, late of the ſtate navy, as were made priſoners of war previous to the derangement in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight, and were afterwards honorably diſcharged, and of the widows and children of thoſe officers who died during their captivity.*

An ACT *for complying with the requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the ſervices of the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, and for paying one year's intereſt on the foreign and domeſtic debts.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 9, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *James Kinkead* was read, containing his reſignation of the offices of Regiſter of wills, &c. and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Briſon* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills, &c. and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation and petition from *John Shields* and *John Pomroy,* two of the truſtees appointed to purchaſe a piece of ground, whereon to erect a Court-Houſe and Goal in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland,* was read, of a ſimilar tenor to that read *December* 27th laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from upwards of 1000 of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be continued at *Hanna's-town.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the freeholders and inhabitants of *Warwick* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter,* was read, praying to be annexed to the firſt diſtrict for holding the general elections in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the preſent miniſter, truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German* reformed congregation in the borough of *Lancaſter,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to revive their ancient charter of incorporation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Devereux Smith,* of *Pittſburg,* read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *February* 16th laſt, was called up, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, praying that public certificates may be received in payment for unpatented lands, and that the expences of government may be leſſened.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 294 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with the memorial read *March* 3d, reſpecting the charter of the Bank of *North-America.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Hay*, late Collector of Exciſe for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that he is indebted to this ſtate in the ſum of *two thouſand pounds*, for which his real eſtate has been taken in execution, and advertiſed by the Sheriff for ſatisfaction thereof; that the ſale hath been poſtponed from time to time for want of bidders, owing to the great ſcarcity of money; that he hath uſed every exertion in his power to render juſtice to the commonwealth, by making ſale of his eſtate, without effect; therefore praying that funded certificates granted to him for his demands againſt the ſtate may be accepted in diſcharge thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Bridges*, *William Carſon*, *Joſeph Carſon* and *Alexander Boyd*, was read, ſetting forth, that a few days before the *Britiſh* army took poſſeſſion of the city of *Philadelphia* they removed into the country, and finding money much wanted up the river *Delaware*, for the ſupport of the troops ſtationed there, immediately placed their money in the continental loan-office in the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*, as the ſpeedieſt mode of giving the much wanted relief, when, with great eaſe, they might have put their money into the loan-office of this ſtate, and received the intereſt therefor, which, by the regulations of this ſtate and of the ſtate of *New-Jerſey*, they are deprived of, therefore have no benefit from the loan of their money, and are not on an equal footing with other public creditors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee, read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and Council reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, report—

That in the opinion of this committee, the intelligence communicated by Council affords little room to doubt but that the people at *Wyoming* are meditating a ſerious oppoſition to the authority of government; and it appears to them highly expedient farther to ſtrengthen the hands of Council, to enable them effectually to carry into execution the act paſſed at the laſt ſeſſion: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to raiſe and equip volunteers, in addition to the proviſional meaſures directed by an act, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To fill up the blank with the words *three hundred*, which was carried in the negative. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that the committee be inſtructed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council thereon.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the Act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the river *Schuylkill*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 10, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter of wills, *&c.* and Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Weſtmoreland*; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Hamilton*, Eſquire, was duly elected: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the ſaid *James Hamilton* be, and he is hereby appointed, Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland*.

Petitions from 1547 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying for a repeal of the law which ſuſpends the removal of the ſeat of juſtice from the borough of *Cheſter* to the *Turks-Head*, in *Goſhen* townſhip, in ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they, together with the other petitions and remonſtrances which have been preſented heretofore, reſpecting the removal and diviſion of the ſaid county, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *A. Smith*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee, to arrange the unfiniſhed buſineſs on the files of the Houſe, and to report the order in which the ſame ſhall be taken up.

The petitions of *Charles Beſſonett*, and *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, read *March* 2d and 10th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Peter January*, *John Purdon*, and others, read *March* 1ſt, and the remonſtrance of the Miniſter, ſome members of the corporation, and others, members of *The Scots Preſbyterian Church in* Philadelphia, read *March* 4th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *J. Morris*, Mr. *Parr*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Creigh*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to examine into and report to this Houſe the ſtate of the Treaſury, as it appears neceſſary that this Houſe ſhould have before them a ſtate of their funds.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Piper*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the letter poſtponed *March* 7th, from his Excellency Governor *Smallwood*, and the reſolution of the Houſe of Delegates of *Maryland*, of the twenty-firſt day of *February* laſt, appointing Commiſſioners for that ſtate, to meet Commiſſioners from this ſtate and the ſtate of *Delaware*, for the purpoſes of digeſting the moſt proper meaſures for improving the inland navigation of the river *Suſquehanna*, and for effecting a navigable communication between the bays of *Cheſapeak* and *Delaware*.

Whereupon, on motion made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

Reſolved, That this Houſe will, on *Thurſday* next, proceed to the appointment of five Commiſſioners, to meet the Commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed by the ſtates of *Maryland* and *Delaware*, for the ſaid purpoſes.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hannum*, Mr. *Trail* and Mr. *A. Smith*, be a committee, to draught and report a ſett of inſtructions to the Commiſſioners to be appointed

pointed agreeably to the foregoing reſolution, with the allowance to be made them for their trouble.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

Ordered, That the order of the day for debating the bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend an act of General Aſ- " ſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " A Supplement to an act, enti- " tuled " An Act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkead*, " *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a new " court-houſe and priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and ſell the old court- " houſe and priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*," be poſtponed until *Friday* next.

On motion made by Mr. *Will*, ſeconded by Mr. *J. Smith*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to* " *extend the market-houſe in* High-ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet " *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time weſtward,* " *from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the* " *ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this* " *commonwealth*."

The report of the committee, read *March* 6th, on the petition of *Joſeph Harriſon*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

The report of the committee, read *March* 4th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the northernmoſt part of *Montgomery* county, and of part of the counties of *Northampton* and *Berks*, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution, ſubmitted by the committee?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That the prayer of their petitions ought to be granted.

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *February* 25th laſt, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to extend the benefit of an act, entituled* " An Act to " give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, and to " other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the " Comptroller-General of this ſtate, to ſuch perſon or perſons whoſe accounts " were ſettled before the publication of the ſame act," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for veſt- " ing in the *American* Philoſophical Society, held at *Philadelphia*, for the " promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the " State-Houſe ſquare," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the payment of the principal and* " *intereſt of ſuch of the bills emitted purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the* " *eighteenth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act* " *of the Legiſlature of this ſtate of* June *the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred* " *and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, "*one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 11, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Jaſper Yeates, Edward Burd, James Clemſon, Joſeph Shippen,* jun. and *Edward Hand,* Guardians of the eſtates of *Burd Grubb* and *Henry Bates Grubb,* minor children of *Peter Grubb,* late of *Hopewell* forge, in *Lancaſter* county, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that the alteration prayed for (by the remonſtrance read *March* 7th) in the diviſion line between the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin,* by extending the line along the ſouth mountain, and by the lines of the townſhips of *Lebanon* and *Heidelberg,* would, if granted, materially injure the intereſts of the ſaid minor children; therefore praying that the prayer of the aforeſaid remonſtrance may be rejected.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying the act, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend an act of General* "*Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled* " A Supplement to an act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk,* " *John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis,* to build a new court-houſe " and priſon in the county of *Cheſter,* and to ſell the old court-houſe and pri- " ſon in the borough of *Cheſter,*" may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Owen M'Laughlin,* formerly a ſoldier in the regiment commanded by General *Hazen,* and a citizen of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *November* laſt he was robbed of the ſeveral certificates given to him for the depreciation of pay, arrears of pay and gratuity; and praying new ones may be granted him, in lieu thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Jedon,* of *Warrington* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks,* was read, ſetting forth, that his father *Francis Jedon* was appointed collector of taxes within the ſaid townſhip, who, being old and infirm, employed the petitioner to do the buſineſs; that on the evening of the third of *December* laſt, on his way to make payment into the treaſury of the ſeveral ſums he had collected, he was robbed by two armed men of *forty-ſix pounds five ſhillings* in paper currency, *fifty-one dollars, thirty-ſix French crowns,* and a trifle of ſmaller coin, public money; and praying the ſaid ſums may be allowed in the ſettlement of his father's accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander M'Lean* was read, ſetting forth, that at the requeſt of the Surveyor General of this ſtate he ſuperintended the laying out the lands appropriated for the redemption of the certificates of depreciation, and laid out the reſerved tracts for the uſe of the ſtate; and praying this Houſe to grant him a compenſation for thoſe ſervices, as well as the conſiderable expence he has been at in conducting the ſaid buſineſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented an eaſy and practicable method of working boats in our rivers by the force of ſteam, whereby the inland navigation of the United States may be greatly promoted; and praying this Houſe to grant him an excluſive right of conſtructing boats for a limited time upon the aforeſaid principles.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the petition of *Henry Bedkin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 24th laſt, on the petition of the Sugar Refiners in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on that part of the Meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, which relates to the opening and repairing the roads and highways within this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 23d laſt, on the petition of the incorporated Baptiſt Church, in the townſhip and county of *Montgomery*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the letter from the Governor of *Virginia*, referred to in the Meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of the 26th of the ſame month, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 1ſt, on the memorial of *Philip Dalby*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce* "*the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth*," was read the third time; and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, *March* 13, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to regulate the general* "*elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein*," paſſed the 13th day of *September*, 1785; and praying that ſo much of the ſaid act may be repealed, as alters the ancient method and eſtabliſhed principles by which the general elections have ſo long been conducted, in favor of needleſs innovations and imaginary improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions ſigned by 2633 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, and of the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Cheſter*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, *Northampton* and *Dauphin*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the* "*Market-houſe*

" *Market-houſe in* High-ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time weſtwardly, from one* " *ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid city* " *ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freemen, reſiding or holding real eſtates in *High-ſtreet,* between *Third* and *Fourth-ſtreets,* in the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill for extending the Market in *High-ſtreet* aforeſaid, and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law, but that, as they conceive it a queſtion of private property, the ſame may be left to the courts of law to determine thereon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from the inhabitants of *Lower Smithfield* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton,* was read, ſtating, that the ſaid townſhip is unequally taxed with reſpect to the reſt of the county aforeſaid, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Brandywine,* in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Blair* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath at a conſiderable expence erected a mill on *Aughwick* creek, in the county of *Bedford;* therefore praying the ſame may not be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Arthur Donaldſon* was read, ſetting forth, that he has a plan ready to lay before this Houſe, towards the improvement of navigation, which, in the opinion of a number of gentlemen of knowledge may be carried into execution, ſo as to ſave all the expence of labour, by ſubſtituting the action of elements againſt each other, in the place of bodily exerciſe of human ſtrength; that he has reaſon to believe, from ſome ſmall experiments of the leading principles of his ſcheme, it will anſwer very uſeful purpoſes; but the heavy loſſes he has ſuſtained have diſabled him to proſecute his diſcovery to the length he would have wiſhed, unleſs he ſhould be favoured with public encouragement; therefore praying this Houſe to take his petition read in a former Aſſembly, *January* 24th, 1784, and his preſent invention, into conſideration, and to afford him relief and encouragement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance and petition from divers farmers of this commonwealth was read, ſtating their inability to pay the preſent taxes, and praying that a ſtrict œconomy may take place in every department of the ſtate, and that, actuated by the ſtricteſt principles of juſtice, this Houſe will not ſuffer one part of the citizens to be oppreſſed with additional taxes, whilſt another part refuſe or neglect to pay their proportion.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freeholders of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, of a ſimilar tenor to the petition of the freeholders of the ſaid county, read *February* 23d laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the preſent miniſter, truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German*

man Reformed Congregation in the borough of *Lancaſter*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the truſtees of the public ſchool of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The remonſtrance and petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Lebanon*, in the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Whelen* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Edward Burd*, in behalf of himſelf and the other guardians of the minor children of *Peter Grubb*, deceaſed, read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Alexander M'Clean*, read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The ſeveral petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice from *Hanna's-town*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, read *December* 19th and 27th laſt, and 9th of *March* inſtant, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Woods*, Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *Hughes* and Mr. *Edgar*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Leſher*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Gehr* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 4th, on the memorial of divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th to arrange the unfiniſhed buſineſs on the files of the Houſe, and to report the order in which the ſame ſhould be taken up, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the title of the aſſigns of* "Nathaniel Taylor *in a certain meſſuage and tract of land in* Allen *townſhip, in* "*the county of* Northampton," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion made by Mr. *Evans*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Juſtices of the ſupreme court to ſupply the de-*"*fects in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings reſpecting* "*the ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by time or acci-*"*dent.*"

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 14, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and of ſeveral of the counties of this ſtate, for and againſt extending the Market in *High-ſtreet* from *Third-ſtreet* to *Fourth-ſtree*, in the ſaid city, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jacob Tobin*, late Aſſiſtant Surgeon in the general hoſpital, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the eaſt end of *Derry* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, ſetting forth their diſtreſſed ſituation, occaſioned by the depredations of the *Indians* during the late war, and praying to be exempted from the payment of the arrearages of taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Waſhington*, *Antrim*, *Peters* and *Montgomery*, in the county of *Franklin*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing them to hold their general elections in *Green Caſtle*, in *Antrim* townſhip aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the lower end of *Cheſter* county was read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under in the preſent mode of aſſeſſing, levying and collecting the public taxes, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of *Edward Williams*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Davis*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the petitions reſpecting the Bank of *North-America*.

The committee appointed *November* 12th laſt, to procure an account of the annual expenditures of the civil liſt, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee on the petition of *Joſeph Harriſon*, poſtponed *March* 10th, was read as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *Joſeph Harriſon*, a creditor of *Joſeph Galloway*, an attainted traitor, report—

That the ſaid reference having led them into general conſiderations, they would obſerve,

That by the law, as it ſtands, the ſtate is become liable to account for the aſcertained debts due on each forfeited eſtate, as far as the amount of its produce on a public ſale.

That part of the forfeited eſtates (by far the greateſt number) have been ſold, but that the monies ariſing from the ſales having, according to the directions of law, been placed in the treaſury, and uſed in common with other public monies, theſe ſales have produced no exiſting fund for payment of the demands againſt ſuch eſtates, a defect not yet otherwiſe ſupplied by the legiſlature.

That ſome part of the forfeited eſtates remain yet unſold, and conſequently the ſtate has the means of ſatisfying, as far as their amount, the debts wherewith they are chargeable.

Upon the principle that government ought to acquit itſelf of its engagements in all practicable caſes, the committee recommend that payment of the debts due on the unſold eſtates be no longer poſtponed, than till the ſaid eſtates can be diſpoſed of, any public inability with reſpect to creditors in the former predicament affording no ſubſtantial argument againſt the juſtice due to thoſe in the latter: They therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to prepare and bring in a bill directing the ſale of ſuch of the forfeited eſtates of attainted traitors as yet remain unſold and have demands againſt them, aſſumed by the ſtate, in order that ſuch demands be ſatisfied and paid out of the produce of ſaid eſtates.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing report?"

It was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower* "*the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the market-houſe in* High-"ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet *from* Delaware *river, and to con-*"*tinue the ſame from time to time weſtwardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the* "*middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary,* "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time: Whereupon,

On motion made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Whelen*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 15, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act to "ſuſpend an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled "A "Supplement to an act, entituled "An Act to enable *William Clingan*, "*Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkead*, *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and "*Joſeph Davis*, to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, "and ſell the old court-houſe and priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*," may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition ſigned by 138 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the charter of the Bank of *North-America* may be reſtored.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the ſeveral petitions relative to the charter of the Bank of *North-America* were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Hay*, read *March* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Lincoln* and Mr. *Woods*, to report thereon.

The memorial and petition of the inhabitants of *Lower Smithfield* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Lutz*, to report thereon.

The petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Benſalem* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, read *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of divers members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Brandywine*, in the county of *Cheſter*, read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Jacob Mytinger*, read *March* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *R. Clark*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 4th, on the petition of *Robert Robinſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 1ſt, on the petition of *Elizabeth Ferguſon*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſaid petition be diſmiſſed.

The report of the committee, read *December* 8th laſt, on the petition of Lieutenant-Colonel *James Moore*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that the committee be inſtructed to confer with Council thereon.

The report of the committee, read *March* 11th, on that part of the Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, relative to the opening and repairing the highways within this ſtate, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom was referred that part of the Meſſage of Council which relates to the opening and repairing the roads and highways within this ſtate, beg leave to report——

That your committee are of opinion it would be of conſiderable utility to the public in general, and tend greatly to the keeping the public roads and highways within this ſtate in good repair, if a law was enacted empowering and requiring the Juſtices of the Quarter Seſſions, in each county, to appoint two or more ſkillful and ſuitable perſons as ſurveyors of the roads and highways within each county reſpectively, allotting to each ſurveyor a certain diſtrict, wherein the amending and repairing the roads and highways ſhall be under his care and inſpection; and that the ſupervifors of the ſeveral townſhips within each diſtrict ſhould amend and repair the roads and highways within their reſpective townſhips, at ſuch time, and in ſuch manner, as the ſurveyor of the diſtrict ſhould from time to time direct. And in order to make the burden or expences on account of repairing the roads, &c. as nearly equal as poſſible, your committee conceive the ſaid law ſhould provide, that where any townſhip has collected and expended, for the purpoſes aforeſaid, to the amount of   in the pound rate, to be taken from the laſt aſſeſſment of the ſtate taxes, that then, and in ſuch caſe, all further ſums expended by the ſupervifor of ſuch townſhip on the roads, &c. within the ſame, ſhould be paid out of the county levies.

Therefore your committee would offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to anſwer the aboveſaid purpoſes.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the report, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Maryland *and* Virginia *to lay out and improve a road* "*within the limits of this ſtate, between the waters of the river* Potomack *and* "*of the river* Ohio," and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth,*” and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for veſting in the *American* Philoſophical Society, held at *Philadelphia,* for the promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the State-Houſe ſquare,” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion—“ Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Hannum,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *John Hannum,*
14 *Robert Smith,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Jonathan Morris,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Abraham Scott,*
23 *Henry Miller,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *Philip Gartner,*
26 *Joſeph Lilly,*
27 *David M‘Clellan,*
28 *John Carothers,*
29 *Frederick Watts,*
30 *John Creigh,*
31 *Nicholas Lutz,*
32 *Philip Kreemer,*
33 *Robert Trail,*
34 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
35 *John Piper,*
36 *Samuel Dale,*
37 *William Todd,*
38 *John Hughes,*
39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *Robert Loller,*
41 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *John Smith,*
3 *Joſeph Thomas,*
4 *William Parr,*
5 *David M‘Conaughy,*
6 *Henry Tyſon,*
7 *Adam Eichelberger,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*
9 *Abraham Lincoln,*
10 *Henry Spyker,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *Robert Brown,*
15 *George Woods,*
16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *John M‘Dowell,*
18 *James Edgar,*
19 *John Smilie,*
20 *James M‘Calmont,*
21 *Abraham Smith,*
22 *John Rhea,*
23 *Adam Orth,*
24 *Robert Clark,*
25 *David Krouſe,*
26 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, March 16, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

William Maclay, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, appearing in the Houſe for the firſt time, and being called upon by the Speaker to make the requiſite declarations, previouſly to his being ſworn in as a member; he ſaid, that he had taken in due time the oath of allegiance as preſcribed by law, and that he held no other office but that of Deputy Surveyor, which he apprehended was not incompatible with a ſeat in the Houſe, however, he ſubmitted the ſame to the deciſion of the Houſe: Whereupon

A motion was made by Mr. *Loller*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*, purporting that the office of Deputy Surveyor diſqualifies the perſon holding the ſame from being a member of the legiſlature.

After ſome debate, it was,

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the aforeſaid motion be poſtponed.

Mr. *Maclay* withdrew until the determination of the Houſe thereon.

A letter from *Frederick Phile*, Eſquire, Naval Officer of the port of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that it was with ſurprize that he found by Meſſrs. *Hall* and *Sellers* news-paper, that the committee of the General Aſſembly for an account of annual expenditures of the civil liſt, *&c.* have ſtated to the Honorable Houſe, that the Naval Officer had received as fees of office within eight months of the year, ending the firſt of *January* laſt, the ſum of *one thouſand three hundred and eighty-four pounds two ſhillings and three-pence*, whereas the ſaid ſum was returned by him to the gentlemen of the committee, as of the whole of the fees and perquiſites of the Naval Office for a full year, incluſive of a ſalary to a clerk and office rent, and encloſing a copy of the account rendered by him to the committee; therefore praying that the ſaid error may be rectified.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Suſanna Jones* and *Chriſtian Rohrback* was read, ſetting forth that a number of lots in the town of *Williamſburg*, in the county of *Dauphin*, remain unſold, for want of a perſon duly empowered to grant and convey the ſame, by means whereof the widow and minor children of *John Jones*, deceaſed, late proprietor of ſaid town, ſuſtain great loſs; therefore pray for leave to bring in a bill empowering them to ſell and convey the ſaid lots, ſubject to the rents and other reſervations on the which the town was originally laid out, and to receive the ground rents now due on the lots heretofore ſold, for the uſe of the ſaid widow and minor children during their minority.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, reſiding on and near the weſt branch of *Delaware* river, were read, praying leave to bring in a bill for reſtraining the proprietors of the fiſhery at the conflux of the two branches of ſaid river, from extending their nets in future nigher than fifty rods to the ſouthern ſhore of the ſaid weſt branch.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the freeholders and freemen of the county of *Dauphin* was read, ſetting forth, that by the act for erecting the ſaid county, no proviſion was made for drawing any part or proportion of the common ſtock, for the uſe of the ſaid county of *Dauphin*, out of the treaſury at *Lancaſter*, which remained therein at the time of paſſing of the ſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital was read, ſetting forth, that on the 27th day of *March*, 1780, an order was iſſued by the then General Aſſembly, for the uſe of the ſaid Hoſpital, for *ten thouſand pounds* continental currency, which ſum was received as a gift, and entered as ſuch on their books, but they now find the inſtitution charged with the ſaid ſum as a loan; therefore praying the above charge may be extinguiſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Tobias Ream*, of *Ream*'s-*Town*, and *Richard Adams*, of *Adam*'s-*Town*, in *Cocalico* townſhip, *Lancaſter* county, was read, ſetting forth the difficulties they labour under, for the want of power in any inferior Magiſtrate to compel the payment of the arrearages of ground-rent due from the inhabitants of ſaid towns, in the ſame manner as debts under *ten pounds* are recoverable; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 226 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Eve* was read, ſetting forth, that in the time of the late conteſt with *Great-Britain*, he at a conſiderable expence erected a powder-mill, and carried on that manufactory, to the great benefit and advantage of the United States; that ſince the peace great quantities of gun-powder have been imported into this ſtate without paying an additional duty, to the great injury and diſcouragement of the petitioner and other manufacturers; and praying a duty may be laid on the importation of gun-powder, and a bounty granted on rough ſalt-petre imported into this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 2d, on the memorial of *James Murray*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 12th, on the petition of *John Leſher*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 24th laſt, on the petition of *William Auguſtus Patterſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 19th laſt, on the ſeveral petitions for incorporating the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 14th, on the memorial of *Edward Williams*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, to draught a ſett of inſtructions to the Commiſſioners to be appointed to meet Commiſſioners from the ſtates of *Delaware* and *Maryland*, for the purpoſe of digeſting the moſt proper meaſures for improving the inland navigation of the river *Suſquehanna*, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Andrew Henderſon*, poſtponed *March* 7th, and

On the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution, *viz.*"

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and impowered to draw on the treaſury of this ſtate, in favor of each of the Surveyors of the lands aforeſaid who have compleated their ſurveys, and made return thereof as is by law directed, for the ſum of *pounds*.

That the Supreme Executive Council be alſo directed to retain the ſums ſo drawn for, as aforeſaid, out of the fees firſt received on account of the Surveyors in whoſe favor the warrants before mentioned ſhall iſſue reſpectively.

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to regulate the militia of this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Loller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the aforeſaid bill be printed for the uſe of the Members of this Houſe.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Brandywine, *in the townſhip of* Weſt-Nantmill, *and county of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for altering and amending an Act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the " General Elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 17, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the religious ſociety of the people called Quakers was preſented to the chair and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

The MEMORIAL *of the Religious Society of the People called* QUAKERS *in* Pennſylvania,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT we think it ſeaſonable at this time to lay before you our ſenſe of the unchriſtian principles and injurious effect of the Militia Law, under which we, as a religious body, peculiarly, have been long ſorely aggrieved; prompted thereto, not only by an attachment to our juſt right to religious freedom, but alſo by an unfeigned love to the true foundation and wholeſome order of civil government, which we are deſirous to promote and ſtrengthen, by every means conſiſtent with our duty toward God and toward man.

On occaſions ſo eſſential to human wellbeing, as well as on all other, it undoubtedly becomes ſincere believers in Chriſt faithfully to adhere, both in doctrine and practice, to his holy example and precepts; and in the fear of God to maintain the chriſtian liberty of aſſerting the rights of conſcience, whenever a practical obſervance of the peaceable principles of the goſpel is made penal by human law; and although, when unreaſonably and grievouſly oppreſſed by ſuch laws, it is our duty with meekneſs and patience to ſuffer the perſecutions permitted for the trial of our faith, yet it is alſo a duty we owe to God and man, not to ſuffer a ſlaviſh fear of human power and authority to ſuppreſs our chriſtian teſtimony againſt ſuch invaſion of God's prerogative, who muſt be acknowledged the alone ſovereign and arbiter of conſcience.

Called on therefore by a regard to the honor of the chriſtian name, by a deſire for the happineſs of the preſent and future generations, and a concern for the reputation of our country, wherein freedom, the common rights of men, and liberty of conſcience, are ſo loudly profeſſed, we hold it incumbent on us to ſuggeſt to you, who are in the exerciſe of the powers of government, our apprehenſions how much the tenor and tendency of the militia law, enforced with much rigor for a number of years, and continued as a ſword, not for the puniſhment of evil doers, but in great meaſure, if not for the moſt part, in the hands of rapacious men, to the diſtreſſing a ſober, inoffenſive, and uſeful part of the community, is oppoſite to the nature and ſpirit of the chriſtian religion, which enjoins, as a fundamental thereof, that harmleſs principle of good, which alone can overcome evil and effectually promote and ſpread "Peace on earth and good will towards men."

Very few of the ſerious and religious profeſſors of faith in Chriſt, we believe, will contend that ſuch laws are reconcilable with the peaceable ſpirit of his divine law and government; and though ſome of theſe ſuffer themſelves to be overborne with the ſpecious arguments of political neceſſity in time of war, yet men of this character are rarely to be found willing to have any hand in the execution of ſuch laws which ſo directly ſtrike at tender conſciences, more eſpecially, if in time of peace they ſhould be continued as engines of oppreſſion: hence it follows, that men, unfit to be truſted in a righteous and equal government, are inveſted with a very miſchievous degree of power, many of whom are willing to embrace an opportunity, under colour of law, to make a prey and ſpoil of their unoffending neighbours, of which there are numerous and flagrant inſtances. Theſe are facts too well known to need the ſupport of more particular evidence, being the fruits naturally to be expected from the ſpirit and tenor of the militia law, now, or late, in force in this government; to ſay nothing more of its injurious tendency and operation in a political view, than as it is promotive of idleneſs, revelling, and a diſtaſte for the ſober and uſeful occupations of life, and therefore ſubverſive of real virtue, and of courſe of civil harmony.

We truſt we are entitled to the quiet enjoyment of our civil and religious rights, equal with any other chriſtian community, not doubting but that it will be allowed by men of impartial obſervation and candor, of all denominations, that no other have more uniformly contributed to the promotion and ſupport of the public weal, or been leſs concerned in ſtirring up ſtrife, animoſity or ſedition, to the diſturbance of the tranquility of any government under which, in the courſe of Providence, we have been placed, it being our unvaried principle and practice, as a religious body, to manifeſt our diſunion with all ſuch diſorderly conduct and proceeding: and though on this account, and for our patient adherence to our chriſtian teſtimony againſt wars and fightings, we have been the objects of much malignant miſrepreſentation and abuſe, it has not been our practice to return reviling for reviling, knowing that a willingneſs to forgive others is the beſt evidence of the rectitude of our own hope of forgiveneſs.

In whatever light we may be viewed through the diſcolouring medium of human politics, having reaſon to believe we have never, as a people, juſtly forfeited our claim to the friendly and candid attention of the reaſonable and well diſpoſed among all claſſes and deſcriptions of men, we cannot doubt but we have an equal right with any other body of people among whom we live, to offer for conſideration what we believe ſo nearly concerns the religious and civil welfare of our country, and, with due reſpect to the authority of government, to repreſent with that chriſtian firmneſs, which is afforded under a religious ſenſe of duty, how oppoſite a ſpirit of intolerance is to both.

Our predeceſſors, who, under ſevere perſecutions in their native countries, had given indubitable proofs of their ſincerity and ſtability in their chriſtian principles, and their perſevering reliance on Divine protection and ſupport therein, manifeſted their high eſtimation of liberty of conſcience, by foregoing almoſt all other worldly comforts for the enjoyment of it in this land, then a wilderneſs, which they ſettled; and being, with others, entruſted with the powers of government, exerciſed the ſame with a conſiſtent regard to the religious freedom of every profeſſor of belief in " One Eternal and Almighty " God, creator, upholder and ruler of the world; and who held themſelves " obliged in conſcience to live peaceably and juſtly in ſociety;" all, without diſtinction of names, being protected in the uninterrupted enjoyment of liberty of conſcience, whereby they gave inconteſtible evidence of the equity of their claim thereto, and of the univerſal benevolence of the ſpirit of government they were actuated by; an unprejudiced regard to the ſalutary effects whereof is well worthy the recollection, and cannot, we think, fail of engaging the cloſe conſideration of a wiſe and virtuous government at this day, which we deſire may be verified in the effects of your chriſtian attention thereto, not on our own account only, but becauſe we are well aſſured the happineſs of every branch of civil and religious community is equally intereſted therein.

If to do unto all men, as we would they ſhould do unto us, be really a compendium of ſocial righteouſneſs; if to love our neighbour as ourſelves, to do juſtly and love mercy, be admitted as certain characteriſtics of both public and private virtue; if this equitable view be ſuffered to govern in a legiſlative enquiry into the nature of the militia law of this government, our religious ſociety, and the public, may expect to be relieved from the unreaſonable burthen.

We therefore earneſtly entreat you may ſo ſeek for the direction of that wiſdom, which is pure, peaceable, full of mercy and good fruits, as to manifeſt, by a removal of this oppreſſion, your juſt ſenſe, that it is impartial righteouſneſs exalteth a nation. Being, with ſincere deſires for your ſubſtantial honor, as rulers rightly diſcerning and faithfully attached to the ſure means of ſupporting the dignity of your eminent ſtation,

YOUR REAL FRIENDS.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of a Meeting of the Repreſentatives of the ſaid People called Quakers, held in Philadelphia, *the* 16*th day of the* 2*d month,* 1786.

JOHN DRINKER, *Clerk.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* was read, praying for a reviſion of the militia laws of this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of the Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſuggeſting that the intervention of government will be neceſſary to reduce the public charges in the commercial department, to ſecure to *Pennſylvania* her due proportion of ſome branches of our trade; that a reduction of thoſe charges appears neceſſary, as the neighbouring ſtates do not only exempt all imported articles from duties and taxes, but are extremely attentive to moderate the fees in the public offices, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 372 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing certain perſons, therein to be named, to erect a Market-Houſe in *Dock-ſtreet* in the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Montgomery* was read, ſetting forth, that he ſerved as an officer in the line of this ſtate, in the ſervice of the United States, and in the navy of this ſtate, from the commencement of the war until the concluſion thereof; and praying to be allowed ſuch benefits and emoluments as were given and granted to officers of equal rank in the *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *John Lukens*, Eſquire, Surveyor-General, was preſented to the chair and read, ſtating, that he had deſired *Alexander M'Clean* to run certain lines, for the better aſcertaining and laying off the donation lands given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, which lines were accordingly run by the ſaid *M'Clean*, at a conſiderable expence to himſelf.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Board of Commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the county of *Cheſter* may not be removed from the borough of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Leonard Nutz* was read, ſetting forth that he became bound with a certain *Abraham Paſtorius*, of the townſhip of *Germantown*, for the payment of *one hundred pounds*, to be made by the ſaid *Paſtorius*, unto *John Bockius*; that the ſaid *Abraham*, during the late war, was attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate forfeited to this commonwealth; that no demand for payment of the ſaid bond was made until the time limited for filing claims againſt forfeited eſtates had expired, when he was compelled to pay the ſame; that by this concurrence of unfortunate circumſtances he is precluded from all remedy of repayment under the preſent exiſting laws; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair, tranſcripts of the taxes and exonerations for the county of *Northumberland*, for the years 1781, 1782, 1783 and 1784, which were

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from upwards of 2750 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of the ſaid county, and praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to the *Turk*'s-*Head*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the ſeveral petitions for and againſt a diviſion of the county of *Cheſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 11th, on the petition of the ſugar refiners in and near the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh and incorporate a " public ſchool at *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to extend the benefit of an act, entituled* " An " Act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, " and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner " by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate, to ſuch perſon or perſons whoſe " accounts were ſettled before the publication of the ſame act," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for repealing ſo much of a law paſſed in* December *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, for raiſing the ſum of* ninety " three thouſand ſix hundred and forty pounds ten ſhillings *annually, for ſix* " *years, as relates to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to* " *be laid*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend " an act of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " A Supple- " ment to an act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, " *John Kinkaid*, *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to " build a new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and to ſell " the old Court-houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the act, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend an act* " *of General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled* " A Supplement to an " act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan*, *Thomas Bull*, *John Kinkaid*, *Roger Kirk*, *John Sellers*, *John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a " new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and to ſell the old " Court-houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*," ſhall be, and the ſame is hereby repealed and made void.

On the queſtion—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame ?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Hannum*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Arthur Erwin*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *John Smith*,
10 *Joſeph Thomas*,
11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *John Hannum*,
14 *Robert Smith*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Jonathan Morris*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *Abraham Scott*,
23 *William Parr*,
24 *Henry Miller*,
25 *David M'Conaughy*,
26 *Michael Schmyſer*,
27 *Philip Gartner*,
28 *Joſeph Lilly*,
29 *Henry Tyſon*,
30 *David M'Clellan*,
31 *Adam Eichelberger*,
32 *Frederick Watts*,
33 *John Creigh*,
34 *Abraham Lincoln*,
35 *Henry Spyker*,
36 *Robert Trail*,
37 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
38 *Peter Burkhalter*,
39 *William Todd*,
40 *Robert Loller*,
41 *David Krouſe*,
42 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine*,
2 *John Salter*,
3 *John Clark*,
4 *Robert Whitehill*,
5 *John Carothers*,
6 *Nicholas Lutz*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *David Davis*,
9 *Baltzer Gehr*,
10 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
11 *Robert Brown*,
12 *George Woods*,
13 *John Piper*,
14 *Frederick Antes*,
15 *Samuel Dale*,
16 *John M'Dowell*,
17 *James Edgar*,
18 *John Smilie*,
19 *James M'Calmont*,
20 *Abraham Smith*,
21 *John Rhea*,
22 *Peter Richards*,
23 *Samuel Wheeler*,
24 *Adam Orth*,
25 *Robert Clark*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And having fully debated the aforeſaid bill by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to provide for the payment of the principal and intereſt of ſuch of the bills, emitted purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate of* June *the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled "An Act for veſting in the* American *Philoſophical Society, held at* Philadelphia, *for the promoting uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the State-Houſe ſquare."*
Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 18, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, PHILADELPHIA, *March* 18*th*, 1786.

SIR,

I ENCLOSE ſeveral papers which Council wiſh to be laid before the Houſe. The caſe of *John Robert Shaw*, late a Corporal in the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Harmar*, is peculiarly hard, and we hope that the relief provided for ſoldiers of the late fœderal army, and the militia of the ſtate, in his ſituation, may be extended to him, and ſuch others of the ſame corps as belong to this commonwealth, who may have been diſabled in public ſervice. *I am, SIR,*

With great reſpect,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers encloſed were alſo read.

A petition from the Miniſter, Wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Proteſtant Epiſcopal churches of *Trinity* church in *Oxford* and *All-Saints* church in *Lower-Dublin* townſhips, in the county of *Philadelphia*, and *St. Thomas*'s church, in *Whitemarſh* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſetting forth the many diſadvantages they labour under for want of the road leading from *Reading* to *Sunbury* being put in good repair, and ſtating the inability of the inhabitants of that part of the county through which the road paſſes to keep the ſame in repair, therefore praying the aid of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James Montgomery*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Waſhington*, *Antrim*, *Peters* and *Montgomery*, in the county of *Franklin*, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Todd*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *A. Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers non-reſident proprietors of new lands within this commonwealth, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The memorial of the committee of the Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Irvine* and Mr. *Clymer*, to report thereon.

A petition from the religious ſociety of friends called Free Quakers, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, requeſting this Houſe to grant them one of the public lots in the vicinity of the city, for the purpoſe of interring their dead.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Cook*, of the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath loſt divers certificates for monies placed in the Continental Loan-Office of this ſtate, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of *Pennſylvania* was read, ſetting forth that the keeping the public road leading from this city to *Lancaſter*, and from thence weſtward, in good repair, will be of great importance to the inland commerce of this ſtate, and ſuggeſting the propriety of employing criminals in the making and repairing thoſe roads, inſtead of inflicting other corporal puniſhments.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, ſtating the delinquency of ſeveral counties in the payment of their proportion of the taxes, and in the payment of the wages of their own repreſentatives, whilſt the laws have been rigorouſly enforced in the other counties, and praying the collection of the late taxes may be ſuſpended until the arrearages of all former taxes are fully paid up in every part of the ſtate, that the number of officers of government as well as their ſalaries may be leſſened.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that in conformity to a reſolution of the General Aſſembly, paſſed the 22d day of *March*, 1784, the Commiſſioners therein appointed called upon the Treaſurer and Commiſſioners of the ſaid county for the arrearages of the *eighteen-penny* taxes which remained in or might come into their hands, for the purpoſe of laying out the beſt and neareſt road from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury*, but that the Treaſurer and Commiſſioners have refuſed to pay unto or account with the aforeſaid Commiſſioners for any money whatever; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A report from *John Byers* and *Chriſtopher Gettig*, two of the Commiſſioners appointed by a reſolution of the General Aſſembly of *March* 22d, 1784, to lay out a road from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury*, was read, ſetting forth, that in compliance with the ſaid reſolution they applied to the Treaſurer and Commiſſioners of the county of *Northumberland*, for payment of the arrears of the *eighteen-penny* taxes which had or might come to their hands, but were informed that all the monies by them received on account of thoſe taxes were paid away, and that no ſeparate account thereof had been kept.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John M‘Ginley*, *William Waugh*, *David Blyth*, *James Stevenſon* and *Moſes M‘Clean*, of *Hamilton-Ban* townſhip, in the county of *York*, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The PETITION *of* John M'Ginley, William Waugh, David Blyth, James Stevenſon *and* Moſes M'Clean, *all of* Hamilton-Ban *and* Cumberland *townſhips, in the county of* York,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and forty-one, one *James M'Ginley, Archibald Baird, John Witherow* and *Jeremiah Lochry,* contracted with *Charles Carroll,* Eſquire, for the purchaſe of a certain tract of land, called *Carroll's Delight,* then ſuppoſed to be in *Frederick* county, *Maryland,* but which, by the running of the line between *Pennſylvania* and *Maryland,* is ſituate in *Hamilton-Ban* and *Cumberland* townſhips, in the ſaid county of *York,* containing five thouſand acres, be the ſame more or leſs: That *Charles Carroll,* by the ſame agreement, was not obliged to convey any part of the premiſes until the whole of the purchaſe-money was paid; but the ſaid purchaſers having divided the ſaid land into ſeveral lots, and ſold moſt of them, and moſt of the under purchaſers having paid *Charles Carroll* or the ſaid firſt purchaſers for their reſpective ſhares, the ſaid *Charles Carroll* conveyed, by the conſent of all the contracting parties, the ſhares of ſuch under purchaſers as had ſo paid, in fee. But there being, at the time when *Charles Carroll* executed the ſaid reſpective deeds, *one hundred and ninety pounds* ſterling due by the petitioners, or thoſe under whom they claim; for this ſum of money *Amos M'Ginley* and *William Witherow* gave their joint and ſeveral bonds to ſaid *Charles Carroll,* who conveyed that part of the ſaid land till then unconveyed, to *Amos M'Ginley,* in conſideration of *five pounds* ſterling, by his deed, bearing date the 20th day of *December,* 1770, in which deed are conveyed the lands contracted and paid for by the petitioners, for whom the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley*'s name was uſed in truſt as to their reſpective ſhares.—That the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley* died inteſtate before he executed any conveyance or releaſe in truſt for any of thoſe tracts or parts of the ſaid lands, contracted for by the petitioners.

And that *Ann M'Ginley,* widow of ſaid *Amos M'Ginley, John Agnew* and *William M'Clean,* are Adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods and chattels, rights and credits of the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley;* and that they left lawful iſſue, the ſurvivors, *James M'Ginley, Hance M'Ginley, Temperance M'Ginley, Samuel M'Ginley, Amos M'Ginley* and *Sarah M'Ginley.*—The petitioners therefore pray that the honorable Houſe will permit them to bring in a bill to empower and oblige the Adminiſtrators of the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley,* or, in caſe of death, the ſurvivors, to execute, deliver and acknowledge, ſuch deed and deeds, conveyance and conveyances, to them reſpectively, for their reſpective ſhares or lots of the ſaid land, on their parts of the ſaid purchaſe-money which were not paid to the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley* as aforeſaid being paid to his ſaid adminiſtrators, as the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley,* in his life-time, could or was compelable to have done, the petitioners giving due notice of the premiſes to the heirs at law of the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley,* or to the guardains of ſuch of them as are under age.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *March* 9th, the report relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 15th, on the petition of *William Hay*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 16th, on the ſeveral petitions for incorporating the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee to whom were referred the ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, praying to be incorporated, have conſidered the ſame, and are of opinion that the prayer thereof ought to be granted; therefore offer the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

And on the queſtion—"Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid report?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *R. Morris*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *James Irvine*,
5 *George Clymer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *John Clark*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *John Smith*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *John Hannum*,
16 *Robert Smith*,
17 *Samuel Evans*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *Abraham Scott*,
22 *Henry Miller*,
23 *David M'Conaughy*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *Philip Gartner*,
26 *Joſeph Lilly*,

YEAS.

27 *Henry Tyſon*,
28 *David M'Clellan*,
29 *Adam Eichelberger*,
30 *John Creigh*,
31 *Abraham Lincoln*,
32 *Nicholas Lutz*,
33 *Henry Spyker*,
34 *Philip Kreemer*,
35 *David Davis*,
36 *Baltzer Gehr*,
37 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
38 *Robert Trail*,
39 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
40 *Peter Burkhalter*,
41 *George Woods*,
42 *John Piper*,
43 *Frederick Antes*,
44 *William Todd*,
45 *John Hughes*,
46 *James M'Calmont*,
47 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
48 *Samuel Wheeler*,
49 *Adam Orth*,
50 *Robert Clark*,
51 *David Krouſe*,
52 *Daniel Bradley*.

NAYS.

1 *Arthur Erwin*,
2 *Joſeph Thomas*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,
4 *John Carothers*,
5 *Frederick Watts*,
6 *Robert Brown*,

NAYS.

7 *Samuel Dale*,
8 *John M'Dowell*,
9 *James Edgar*,
10 *John Smilie*,
11 *Abraham Smith*,
12 *John Rhea*.

So it was carried in the affirmative: Thereupon

Ordered, That the city members be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

On motion of Mr. *Will*, ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia "*to extend the Market-Houſe in* High-ſtreet, *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-"ſtreet, *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time weſt-*"*wardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the War-*"*dens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary.*"

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* "Brandywine, *in the townſhip of* Weſt-Nantmill, *and county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower* "*the Juſtices of the ſupreme court to ſupply defects in the titles to lands, occa-*"*ſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings reſpecting the ſame, or where they have* "*been defaced or rendered illegible by time or accident,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt due upon* "*the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, upon which intereſt was here-*"*tofore payable,*" was read the third time; and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

To add certain additional clauſes, which were read: Thereupon

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill and additional clauſes be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to repeal an act, entituled* "An Act to ſuſpend an act of Genenal Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled "A Supplement to an act, entituled "An Act to enable *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and ſell the old Court-houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*."

An ACT *for repealing ſo much of a law paſſed in* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, for raiſing the ſum of ninety-three thouſand ſix hundred and forty pounds ten ſhillings annually, for ſix years, as relates to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to be laid.*

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *J. Morris* have leave of abſence for a few days.

Adjourned until two o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *March* 20, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from divers owners and ſettlers of the lands at *Wyoming*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſtating the numerous outrages committed on them by a lawleſs banditti, ſtiling themſelves the *Suſquehanna Company*, and praying that a regular armed force may be eſtabliſhed there, for the ſupport of the civil authority, until peace and order can be firmly eſtabliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Baptiſt Church and Congregation in *Lower Dublin* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lawrence Allman*, late Lieutenant in the regiment of artillery commanded by Colonel *Thomas Procter*, was read, praying he may be allowed the depreciation due on his pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the ſeveral petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice from *Hanna's-town*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom were referred, *March* 10th, the petition of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, as alſo the petition of *Charles Beſſonett*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *March* 13th, on the memorial of divers inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Wheeler* be added to the committee, appointed *March* 13th, on the remonſtrance and petition of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Lebanon*, in the county of *Dauphin*, and on the petition of *Edward Burd*, in behalf of himſelf and others, in the room of Mr. *Gray*, who is excuſed from ſerving on the ſaid committee.

The ſeveral petitions read *March* 17th and 18th, reſpecting the road from *Conrad Minick*'s to *Sunbury*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Gehr* and Mr. *Trail*, to report thereon.

The petition from divers freeholders and freemen, inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Lutz*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the report of the commiſſioners for ſettling the juriſdiction of the river *Delaware*, &c. tranſmitted with the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, *December* 17th laſt, together with the petition of *John White*, read *March* 4th, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Surveyor General, read *March* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the *Little Cove*, in *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, read *March* 4th, and the petition of the inhabitants of the *Great Cove*, in the ſame county, read *November* 10th laſt, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John M'Ginley* and others, read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Parr,* Mr. *M'Conaughy* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church of* Silver Spring, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 21, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, remonſtrating agaiſt the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh,* and for "the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Londonderry* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition from the religious ſociety of Friends called Free Quakers, in the city of *Philadelphia,* read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the petition of *James Lees* and *Jacob Weaver,* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 11th, on that part of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, which reſpects a Convention of the ſtates propoſed by the commonwealth of *Virginia,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That five Commiſſioners be appointed on the part of this ſtate, any three of whom may act, to meet ſuch Commiſſioners as may be appointed by the other ſtates in the union, at a time and place to be agreed on, to take into conſideration the trade of the United States, to examine the relative ſituations and trade of the ſaid ſtates, to conſider how far an uniform ſyſtem in their commercial regulations may be neceſſary to the common intereſt and their permanent harmony; and to report to the ſeveral ſtates ſuch an act relative to this great object, as, when unanimouſly ratified by them, will enable the United States in Congreſs aſſembled effectually to provide for the ſame. And alſo to meet Commiſſioners of *Virginia* and *Maryland,* to communicate reciprocally the regulations of commerce and duties propoſed by each ſtate, and within their reſpective powers. And that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to make the ſaid appointment of Commiſſioners, and to give them ſuch inſtructions from time to time as they ſhall think expedient.

Reſolved, That the pay of each of the ſaid Commiſſioners be Three Dollars *per diem,* during the time they are employed on that ſervice.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating* Benſalem *Meeting,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to* "*appoint a Commiſſioner or Commiſſioners to view and open a road from the* " Lehigh Water-Gap, *in the county of* Northampton, *to* Wyoming, *in the* "*county of* Northumberland, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 22, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Oliver Evans* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented a machine for making cotton and wool cards in a new, eaſy and expeditious manner; and that he hath alſo invented, for the uſe of merchant mills, a machine which will clean wheat, and manufacture the ſame into flour, in the beſt and cheapeſt manner; and praying leave to bring in a bill to grant unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, the excluſive right, for the term of twenty-five years, of making, uſing and vending the aforeſaid machines.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers freeholders, inhabitants of *Market-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that the wardens of the ſaid city have, for ſome time paſt, placed ſtalls and benches for butchers and others on and near the pavements of their dwelling-houſes and ſhops, to the great injury of their buſineſs and property, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of the miniſter, elders and other members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Middle Octarara*, in *Bart* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Arthur Donaldſon*, read *March* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Lincoln*, to report thereon.

The petition of the miniſter, wardens and veſtrymen of the united Proteſtant Epiſcopal Churches of *Trinity* Church, in *Oxford*, and *All-Saints* Church, in *Lower-Dublin* townſhips, in the county of *Philadelphia*, and St. *Thomas*'s Church, in *Whitemarſh* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, read *March* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *James M'Donnald* was read, ſetting forth, that in 1776 he purchaſed a tract of land, held by improvement right, from *Andrew Hoover*; that a certain Doctor *Yeldall* obtained a warrant for the ſame, and was afterwards attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate forfeited to the commonwealth; and praying the ſame may not be ſold as part of the eſtate of ſaid *Yeldall*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 118 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* were read, praying an act may be paſſed for erecting Market-houſes in *Dock-ſtreet*, in the ſaid city.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 216 freeholders and inhabitants in *High-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying the bill for extending the Market in ſaid ſtreet may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 18th, on the petition of *James Montgomery*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the order of the day, for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act*, *entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the Market-houſe in* High-ſtreet, *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet, *from* Delaware *river*, *and to continue the ſame, from time to time, weſtwardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion—"Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *Arthur Erwin,*
6 *Samuel Foulke,*
7 *John Smith,*
8 *Joſeph Thomas,*
9 *Robert Smith,*
10 *Jonathan Morris,*
11 *Adam Hubley,*
12 *Alexander Lowrey,*
13 *William Parr,*
14 *Michael Schmyſer,*
15 *Adam Eichelberger,*
16 *Robert Whitehill,*
17 *John Carothers,*
18 *Frederick Watts,*
19 *John Creigh,*
20 *Nicholas Lutz,*
21 *Philip Kreemer,*
22 *David Davis,*

YEAS.

23 *Baltzer Gehr,*
24 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25 *Robert Trail,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Peter Burkhalter,*
28 *Robert Brown,*
29 *John Piper,*
30 *Frederick Antes,*
31 *Samuel Dale,*
32 *William Todd,*
33 *John Hughes,*
34 *John M'Dowell,*
35 *James Edgar,*
36 *James M'Calmont,*
37 *Abraham Smith,*
38 *John Rhea,*
39 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
40 *Robert Loller,*
41 *Samuel Wheeler,*
42 *Adam Orth,*
43 *David Krouſe.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *George Clymer,*
3 *John Salter,*
4 *George Logan,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Clark,*
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *Samuel Evans,*
9 *Townſend Whelen,*
10 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
11 *Joſeph Work,*
12 *Abraham Scott,*

NAYS.

13 *Henry Miller,*
14 *David M'Conaughy,*
15 *Philip Gartner,*
16 *Joſeph Lilly,*
17 *Henry Tyſon,*
18 *David M'Clellan,*
19 *Abraham Lincoln,*
20 *Henry Spyker,*
21 *George Woods,*
22 *John Smilie,*
23 *Robert Clark,*
24 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 23, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A remonſtrance from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for " the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, referring to his petition preſented *December* 10th laſt, and ſtating that he had explained the whole principles of navigating boats, &c. by the force of ſteam, to *Arthur Donaldſon*, and that he finds the ſaid *Donaldſon* hath made application to the Houſe for an excluſive right thereto, as his invention, and praying that the Houſe will not grant the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Salter* be added to the committee appointed *December* 14th laſt, on the petition of *Edward Stiles.*

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Fayette,* read *February* 25th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Smilie,* Mr. *Hannum* and Mr. *Edgar.*

On motion made by Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to appoint five Commiſſioners, any three of whom may act, to meet Commiſſioners appointed or to be appointed by the ſtates of *Maryland* and *Delaware,* for the purpoſes expreſſed in the reſolution of the Aſſembly of *Maryland* of the 21ſt of *February* laſt, and tranſmitted to the Houſe by the Supreme Executive Council, and that the ſaid Council give them the neceſſary inſtructions.

Reſolved, That Three Dollars *per diem* be allowed to each of the ſaid Commiſſioners, for every day they ſhall be engaged in the ſervice aforeſaid.

The committee appointed *March* 7th, on the memorial of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the city and county of *Philadelphia,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 16th laſt, on the petition of divers non-reſident holders of land in the townſhips of *Wyoming*, *Stoke* and *Shawaneſe*, &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from divers perſons dwelling and reſiding in *High-ſtreet*, between *Third* and *Fourth-ſtreets*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was preſented to chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The Subſcribers, dwelling and reſiding on the north and ſouth ſides of High-ſtreet, *between* Third *and* Fourth-ſtreets, *in the city of* Philadelphia, *beg leave, with all due reſpect, to remonſtrate and ſhew,*

THAT by their petitions already preſented, and now depending before this Honorable Houſe, it manifeſtly appears to all who have heard the ſame read, and who are competent judges of law queſtions and of legal titles, that they are *bona fide* purchaſers, for valuable conſiderations, of the right, privilege and advantages of the ſaid *High-ſtreet* remaining free, open and unincumbered for ever, and that the enacting of a law to encumber it with a Market-houſe would be a moſt dangerous attack upon their chartered rights, and an alarming invaſion of private property. That confiding in the legality and juſtice of their titles, and in the laws already in being for the ſupport thereof, and at the ſame time dreading the fatal experiment of legiſlators aſſuming the province of judges, to which they were never delegated, and for which they are too often incompetent, they had offered, by an amicable iſſue and ſpeedy trial, to meet their opponents in a court of juſtice, on the fair and equitable ground of law and of right, and that thoſe, to whom theſe terms were offered, dreading the iſſue of ſuch a tribunal, had rejected their propoſal.

That your remonſtrants thereupon prayed, that this Honorable Houſe would not turn their eyes from the bill of rights, and ſo far forget the conſtitution under which they ſat, as, by a ſingle legiſlative act, to annihilate the rights of private property, but direct an iſſue for the legal and conſtitutional determination thereof.

When they had ſhewn this, and prayed for a conſtitutional appeal to the laws of their country, in which their confidence was placed, when this prayer was addreſſed to men bound by their ſtations and their oaths not to leſſen or abridge the rights of the people, as declared by the conſtitution, and when that conſtitution provides, that no man ſhall be deprived of his liberties and property but by the laws of the land and the judgment of his peers, they were only petitioning for that which they were entitled to demand as a right. With aſtoniſhment they have found their humble requeſt denied, and at a time too, when by their petition they declared, that if a deciſion at law ſhould take place againſt them, they would withdraw their oppoſition and for ever remain quiet. From what cauſes this refuſal could have ariſen, they will not pretend to ſay. If their opponents, and the Honorable Members who have ſupported the bill, do not conſider the claims of your remonſtrants to be well founded, why not put an end to all diſputes by a legal deciſion? And if they are of a contrary opinion, why is an unconſtitutional act to be levelled againſt this, any more than againſt other private property?

When a reſolution is formed in the mind, of carrying a meaſure without much regard to the right thereof, this is ſometimes diſcovered to be what is called overacting the part. In *England*, from which we boaſt (though vainly indeed, if a judgment is to be formed from the ſucceſs of the preſent bill) that the Genius of Liberty has retreated to the free clime of *America*, ſo great a regard is paid to the rights of private property, that all private acts are carried on with great deliberation and caution, that they are uſually referred to the judges to examine and report thereon, and that even then, they are paſſed with a ſaving as to the rights of individuals, whoſe conſent is not expreſly obtained. Till now it was ſuppoſed, that by the declaration of independence, the bill of rights and conſtitution, additional ſecurity was acquired, yet the reverſe is ſo far true, upon the preſent occaſion, that even the opinion of the judges has not been taken. It is true an Honorable Member has aſſured this Houſe, that the committee had called upon the judges for their opinions, and that they had refuſed to give any; yet your remonſtrants aver that no ſuch thing ever happened, in the full extent in which it was mentioned. The Attorney General deemed the queſtion of too much difficulty and importance to give a ſudden opinion, without time for conſideration, and therefore recommended that the matter ſhould be heard by counſel. Mr. Juſtice *Bryan* and Mr. Juſtice *Ruſh* were never called upon, and the Chief Juſtice, though he declined giving an opinion without a vote or order of the Houſe requiring it, expreſly declared, that if his opinion was deſired by the Houſe, he would give it.

Theſe facts your remonſtrants are ready to prove, and pray that an inveſtigation may take place, as they believe that the repreſentation of the Honorable Member, though unfounded, had conſiderable influence with the Houſe, at a time when perhaps the matter would have been poſtponed. If your remonſtrants deliver their ſentiments in the language of freedom, it was a ſenſe of that duty which they owe to themſelves and to poſterity which led to it. When danger threatened them at a diſtance, their petitions were penned in the ſtile of ſupplication and prayer—as it approached more near, they ſtated their rights—they ſhewed the queſtion to be really a queſtion of private property, and they offered to appeal to the laws of the land in ſupport of it. This right, to which every man who has but one penny at ſtake is entitled, has been denied them, and their private property is threatened by an act, expreſly framed to deprive them of a trial by jury—of the benefit of law, and of all kind of remedy for aſſerting their rights. It is calculated at once to deſtroy their property, ſo far as a law contrary to the bill of rights and conſtitution can have that effect, and to bar the door againſt all redreſs.

In this ſituation, to be ſilent would be criminal, and prayer would be vain. In this ſituation, it becomes freemen, jealous of their liberties, to rouſe in ſupport of their invaded rights, and with a manly fortitude to demand that for which they have in vain petitioned. Your remonſtrants know of no authority in this Houſe to decide on the titles or to deſtroy the rights of individuals. They believe that it has not been delegated to them by the people, and they are ſure that they cannot lawfully aſſume it. If they ſhould paſs an act for the purpoſe, it will neither increaſe their law knowledge, or give them juriſdiction over private property. If they can exerciſe it in one inſtance, they may in all. If they can take from an individual his ſmalleſt right, to beſtow on the public, they may at pleaſure diſpoſe of his fortune, his liberty and his life. Theſe are all happily ſecured by a conſtitution ſuperior to this Houſe, or any of its laws—by a conſtitution which declares that no man can loſe them but by the judgment of his peers and the laws of the land; and till this conſtitution ſhall fall, though private property may be endangered, it cannot be deſtroyed by any legiſlative act.

It will be no juſtification for the Houſe to ſay, that your remonſtrants have not the right which they claim, becauſe the Houſe have no authority to determine that queſtion. If they can in this inſtance, they may in all caſes determine, firſt, that a man has no right to a houſe or farm, and then paſs a law to veſt it in the ſtate. If, as was ſtated by an Honorable Member, the Attorney General declined giving his opinion haſtily, will the Houſe ſay that your remonſtrants ſhall be denied a trial on the ſame queſtion?

Ordered to lie on the table.

Th following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the Market-houſe in* High-ſtreet, *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet, *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time, weſtwardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint a Commiſſioner or Commiſſioners to view and open a road from the* Lehigh Water-Gap, *in the county of* Northampton, *to* Wyoming, *in the county of* Northumberland, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 24, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, praying that the public certificates may be received in payment for unpatented lands, the expences of government leſſened, and that the lucrative offices of government may be farmed out.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying that poor-houſes may be erected within the different counties of this ſtate, or that an act may be paſſed to incorporate the county of *Bucks*, for the purpoſe of erecting a poor houſe, and to maintain the poor of ſaid county collectively.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from *John Wilſon*, Eſquire, one of the Juſtices of the Peace in and for the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſtating, that he did not ſign a petition preſented at the laſt ſeſſion, *December* 24th, to which his ſignature was affixed, againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice from *Newtown*, but that he hath uniformly been of opinion that the ſame ought to be removed to the moſt central part of the county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Samuel Caldwell* was read, ſetting forth, that on the 21ſt of *June*, 1780, at a public ſale, held by the Commiſſioners of forfeited eſtates, he became the purchaſer of a tract of land, being part of *Hog-Iſland*, in the river *Delaware*, for a large ſum of money, which he punctually paid agreeably to the terms preſcribed; that he underſtood and believed at the time he ſo purchaſed, that it was ſold as the clear indiſputable property late of *Joſeph Galloway*, an attainted traitor; that he was not apprized that any other perſon had any claim thereto; that a deed poll was granted to him for the ſame, containing 105 acres of banked meadow, by his late Excellency *William Moore*, Eſquire, then Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, in behalf of the commonwealth, bearing date the 9th of *May*, 1782, together with an order of the ſaid Council to one of the aforeſaid Commiſſioners, and the Sheriff of the county of *Philadelphia*, authoriſing and commanding them to deliver him poſſeſſion of the premiſes, but that they were prevented from ſo doing by the oppoſition of a private claimant; that he is informed that no ſuit at law can be inſtituted, until the ſaid iſland be annexed, by an act of the legiſlature, to one of the counties of this commonwealth; therefore praying the Houſe to take his caſe into conſideration, and adopt ſuch meaſures as may be moſt conducive to aſſure to him a ſpeedy poſſeſſion of the aforeſaid tract of land, and a compenſation for the injury and damages he has ſuſtained, by the ſame being withheld from him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, ſetting forth, that they labour under many difficulties in travelling the principal roads, on account of ſeveral rapid creeks riſing very ſuddenly, and in the croſſing the ſame in ſafety for a long time being prevented for want of bridges being erected over them; that the only mode eſtabliſhed by law for remedying thoſe inconveniencies is by application to the Grand Jury, but the caſe being left at their ſole diſcretion to adopt or reject the ſame, it ſeldom, if ever, happens to anſwer the purpoſe intended, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, reſiding on and near the weſt branch of *Delaware* river, was read, of a ſimilar tenor to a petition read *March* 16th, reſpecting the ſhad-fiſheries in the ſaid river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions and remonſtrances from a number of the farmers of this ſtate, of a ſimilar tenor to a petition read *March* 13th, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Arthur Donaldſon* was read, remonſtrating againſt the charges contained in the petition of *John Fitch*, read yeſterday; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame, together with the aforeſaid petition of *John Fitch*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Edgar*,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby requeſted to direct one hundred and fifty copies of the act, entituled "*An* "*Act to aſcertain the number of taxable inhabitants within the city of* Philadel- "phia, *and within each of the counties of this commonwealth, and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned*," paſſed the 3d day of *March* inſtant, to be immediately printed, and cauſe the ſame to be equally diſtributed and delivered to the Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties within this ſtate.

The committee appointed *March* 15th, on the petition of *Jacob Mytinger*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 15th, on the ſeveral petitions relative to the Bank of *North-America*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the aforeſaid report.

The committee to whom were referred, *March* 20th, the report of the Commiſſioners appointed to ſettle the juriſdiction of the river *Delaware, &c.* and the petition of *John White*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, on the petition and remonſtrance of the Miniſter and Members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 22d, on the petition of *James Montgomery*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 1ſt, on the memorial of the Managers of the Houſe of Employment, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the remonſtrance and petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lebanon* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, and on the petition of *Edward Burd*, Eſquire, in behalf of himſelf and others, guardians of the minor children of *Peter Grubb*, deceaſed, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for confirming and amending the Charter of the* German *Reformed* "*Congregation, reſiding in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the county of* Lancaſter, "*in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle-Octarara, *in* Bart "*townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the United Epiſcopal churches of* Trinity *church*, "*in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All-Saints *church, in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in* "Philadelphia *county, and St.* Thomas*'s church, in* Whitemarſh *townſhip, in* "*the county of* Montgomery," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member in his place read a bill, entituled "*An Act for the more* "*ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice*," and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt due upon the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, upon which intereſt was heretofore payable*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of* "*taxes within this commonwealth*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion of Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Conaughy*,

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to cauſe thirty-four copies of the aforeſaid law to be printed, and diſtributed to the different County Treaſurers in this ſtate.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *March* 25, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a committee of the remonſtrants of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the report of the committee read yeſterday, as the ſame is deſigned to modify the conſtitution of their Church, change their religious connections, and alienate the property of the ſaid Church, and praying the ſaid report may not be adopted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, with its incloſures, read *March* 18th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Creigh* and Mr. *Todd*, to report thereon.

Petitions from 522 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may not be removed from *Hanna*'s-*town*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read *March* 2d, and the petition of *Robert Bridges* and others, read *March* 9th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *A. Erwin*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Peter Summers*, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Watts*,

To appoint two additional Delegates, to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 20th, on the petition of *John M'Ginley* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 20th, on the petitions from the inhabitants of the *Great Cove* and the *Little Cove*, in the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 20th, on the petition of the freeholders and freemen of the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 15th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Lower Smithfield* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 13th, on the petition of *Alexander M'Clean*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 20th, on the ſeveral petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice from *Hanna's-town*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, with the addition of Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Finley* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read *March* 16th, on the memorial of *James Murray*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Comptroller be directed to aſcertain the arrearages of the pay of Captain *James Murray*, and his ſubaltern officers, and that he give certificates for the amount which may be found juſtly due to them; and that they be entitled to receive the intereſt on ſaid certificates, in the ſame manner as all other holders of certificates commonly called funded certificates, out of the fund eſtabliſhed for the payment of the intereſt due on ſaid certificates.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Trail* and Mr. *Dale*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, reſpecting the juriſdiction of the river *Delaware*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the report of the commiſſioners appointed to ſettle the juriſdiction of the river *Delaware*, and to divide the iſlands within the ſame, and the petition of *John White*, complaining of the diviſion of the iſlands agreed to by the ſaid commiſſioners, report——

That the agreement made between the commiſſioners of *Pennſylvania* and *New-Jerſey* ſettles points of importance to both theſe ſtates, was the reſult of much application and labour, and in its accompliſhment has coſt both ſtates conſiderable ſums.

That, in compliance with the petition of *John White*, to attempt in any particular to alter the ſaid agreement might endanger the whole, or make it neceſſary to go over the whole work again.

It is therefore the opinion of the committee, that the Houſe ſhould confirm the ſaid agreement in all its parts; and that the Houſe ſhould proceed to aſſign to the proper diſtricts, the ſeveral iſlands declared by the agreement to be within the limits of this ſtate.

That the information given by the ſaid commiſſioners, reſpecting the eaſy practicability of removing the obſtructions to the navigation of the *Delaware* and its branches, the *Lehigh* and *Lahawaxen*, ought not to be neglected by the Houſe. They therefore offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *J. Clark* and Mr. *Trail*, be a committee, to bring in a bill to annex the ſaid iſlands to their proper townſhips and counties. And

Reſolved, That Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Foulke* and Mr. *Brown*, be a committee, to prepare a plan for removing the obſtructions to the navigation of the *Delaware* and its branches, the *Lehigh* and *Lahawaxen*.

The committee appointed *March* 16th, for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, *and for other* "*purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for making the laws for opening and better amending and keeping in repair the public roads and highways more effectual,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh and confirm the title of the aſſigns of* Nathaniel Taylor *in a certain meſſuage and tract of land in* Allen *townſhip, in the county of* Northampton;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Juſtices of the ſupreme court to ſupply defects in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings reſpecting the ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by time or accident;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for diſcharging the arrears of the intereſt due upon the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, upon which intereſt was heretofore payable,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *March* 27, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the counties of *Berks, Northumberland,* and other parts of this ſtate, was read, praying for an alteration and improvement in the road from *Reading* to *Sunbury*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *John Jones,* Health-Officer and Collector of Duty on foreign paſſengers for the port of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that he finds by Meſſrs. *Hall* and *Sellers* news-paper of the 15th of *March,* that the committee appointed by the Houſe to procure an account of the annual expenditures of the civil liſt, &c. have reported to the Honorable Houſe "That the Health-Officer of the port of *Philadelphia* received in the year 1785, in fees and perquiſites, *two hundred and forty-three pounds one ſhilling and three-pence;*" that this is certainly the ſum returned to the committee, but that he ſtated to them that the neceſſary expences attending the ſaid office, within that year, amounted to *one hundred and ſix pounds fifteen ſhillings,* which being deducted from the ſum received, leaves a clear income of no more than *one hundred thirty-ſix pounds ſix ſhillings and three-pence* per annum; and encloſing a copy of the account rendered by him to the committee.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed *March* 13th, on the remonſtrance and petition from *Dauphin* county, and the remonſtrance from *Edward Burd*, Eſquire, and others, guardians of the minor children of *Peter Grubb*, late of *Lancaſter* county, which was read the firſt time *March* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee appointed *March* 20th, on the petition of *John M'Ginley* and others, read *March* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *A further Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to " encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional " duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with " them," which was read the firſt time *March* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation* " *in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland," which was read the firſt time *March* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting* Franklin *ward, being a part of* " Mulberry *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into a new ward*," which was read the ſecond time *December* 1ſt, was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration* " *of juſtice*," which was read the firſt time *March* 24th, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee relative to the annual expenditures for the civil liſt.

The committee appointed *March* 10th, to arrange the unfiniſhed buſineſs, and report the order of proceeding thereon, made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *March* 28, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 1116 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Harris*'s ferry to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from the town of *Sunbury* to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance and petition from divers farmers and others, of the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor to the remonſtrance, &c. read *March* 13th.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to "prevent frauds therein," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Saturday* next.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for making the laws for opening and better "amending and keeping in repair the public roads and high-ways more effectual,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the prevention of vice and immorality, and "of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Friday* next.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Juſtices of the Supreme Court "to ſupply defects in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings "reſpecting the ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by "time or accident,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to regulate the general elec-"tions of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein,*" paſſed the 13th day of *September* laſt, and praying that ſo much of the ſaid act may be repealed, as alters the ancient method and eſtabliſhed principles by which the general elections have ſo long been conducted, in favor of needleſs innovations and imaginary improvements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 25th, on the petition of *John M'Ginley* and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The report of the committee, read *March* 24th, on the petition and remonſtrance of the Miniſter and Members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church, in the city of *Philadelphia,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, to relieve the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in *Philadelphia* from any ſubordination to the Aſſociate Synod of *Edinburgh.*

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to "incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the "county of* Cumberland;" and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 29, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A remonſtrance and petition from the managers elected by the contributors to the relief and employment of the poor in the city of *Philadelphia*, &c. was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *in General Aſſembly met.*

The REMONSTRANCE *and* PETITION *of the Managers elected by the Contributors to the Relief and Employment of the Poor, in the City of* Philadelphia, *&c.*

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT your petitioners obſerve a ſection introduced into the " Supplement to the poor laws, as publiſhed for conſideration, impowering " the Overſeers of the Poor to examine the paupers in the ſaid Houſe of " Employment, with reſpect to their right of reſidence, or continuance of " inability to maintain themſelves, to obtain orders for removal of ſuch as " have not reſidence, and diſcharges for ſuch whoſe inabilities have ceaſed."

Your petitioners, therefore, with concern remark, that this clauſe carries in it a great reflection on the Managers, as if not capable or diſpoſed to enquire into and judge of the ſituation of the paupers under their care; and the Managers apprehend great confuſion might ariſe from ſuch interference in conducting the buſineſs of the inſtitution, and the impropriety of one corporate body intermeddling with the buſineſs of another, which heretofore has been carefully guarded againſt by the legiſlators of this ſtate. However, as we are deſirous that the Overſeers of the Poor ſhould have every neceſſary information, to aſſiſt them in the proper diſcharge of the duties of their office, your petitioners therefore pray, that the clauſe here alluded to (being the 7th ſection) may be ſtruck out of the ſupplement before mentioned, and the following, or one ſimilar to it, may be adopted in place thereof.

" That from and after the paſſing this act, the Managers of the Houſe " of Employment and Alms-Houſe ſhall, once in every month, or oftener, if " they ſhall judge neceſſary, furniſh the Board of Overſeers of the Poor with " a liſt of the names and deſcriptions of all ſuch paupers in the Houſe of " Employment and Alms-Houſe, that the ſaid Overſeers may obtain orders " for the removal of ſuch who have no legal ſettlement (within the limits " of this corporation) to their proper places of reſidence; and alſo that the " ſaid Managers ſhall, once in every week, furniſh the ſaid Overſeers with a " liſt of the names and deſcriptions of ſuch perſons as may be diſcharged " from the ſaid Houſe of Employment or Alms-Houſe, to prevent the Overſeers being impoſed on by future applications of the ſame perſons, without " a change of circumſtances, in order to avoid the expence to the public of " ſuch impoſtors."

That your petitioners obſerve another petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of *Paſſyunk* townſhip, againſt their being re-united with this corporation, has been lately preſented to your Honorable Houſe. We think it needleſs to trouble you with any particular remarks thereon; but beg leave to refer to our petition to your Honorable Houſe, dated *September* 13th laſt,

wherein

wherein we gave ſuch reaſons as we ſtill think are ſufficient for ſaid townſhip being re-united. We therefore pray that the ſixth ſection, as publiſhed in the ſupplement, may remain as it is.

Your petitioners beg leave to renew their application for a reaſonable compenſation being allowed to the Treaſurer of this inſtitution for his ſervices, in ſuch a manner as your Honorable Houſe may judge proper.

And your petitioners, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 91 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, praying the charter of the Bank of *North-America* may be revived, in ſuch manner that in future its exiſtence may be determined by the laws of the land, adminiſtered in the courts of juſtice, and not otherwiſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 50 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, of a ſimilar tenor to the petition read *March* 3d, reſpecting the Bank of *North-America.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Newtown* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, ſetting forth, that they ſettled and improved a tract of land in the ſaid townſhip; that the ſaid lands were afterwards ſurveyed in a private manner, and ſince ſaid to be a proprietary manor; that in obedience to the laws of this commonwealth, divers of the petitioners applied to the Land-Office, and obtained warrants for their reſpective improvements, which warrants the ſurveyor of the diſtrict hath refuſed to execute; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 25th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* and the petition of *Robert Bridges,* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 21ſt, on the petition of the religious ſociety of Friends called Free Quakers, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee, read *March* 24th, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America,* was read the ſecond time:

And after conſiderable debate had thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 30, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Thomas Edwards,* Eſquire, late Sheriff of the county of *Lancaſter,* was read, praying compenſation may be made to him for his ſervices in ſummoning divers witneſſes, and his perſonal attendance, to teſtify at the bar of the late Houſe, and before the Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting the election of repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter,* there conteſted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Henry Dering*, and others, witneſſes on the late conteſted election for the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying this Houſe to grant them compenſation for their loſs of time and expences incurred thereby.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Miniſter, Elders, and divers members of the Preſbyterian church, in *Manahan* townſhip, in the county of *York*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Chriſtopher Getting*, of the town of *Sunbury*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, to grant unto him the excluſive right of keeping and maintaining a ferry from the ſaid town to the weſt ſide of the river *Suſquehanna*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 1ſt, on the ſeveral petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice from *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “ *An Act to impower and direct* Ann M‘Farren, John Agnew *and* William “ M‘Clean, *adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods and chattels, rights and* “ *credits, which were of* Amos M‘Ginley, *deceaſed, to convey certain lands in* “ Hamilton's-Ban *and* Cumberland *townſhips, in* York *county, to ſundry per-* “ *ſons, for whom the ſaid* Amos M‘Ginley *was a truſtee, and to veſt the* “ *ſame in the grantees,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act to authoriſe and impower the Comptroller-General to ſettle and adjuſt the* “ *accounts and charges therein mentioned,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “ *An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots “ *Preſbyterian Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument* “ *incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee, relative to the annual expenditures of the civil liſt, be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed yeſterday, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, and after further debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the member who preſented the petition of *Peter Summers*, *February* 28th laſt, have leave to withdraw the ſame.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed this forenoon, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie*,

That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to cauſe a gallery to be erected, for the accommodation of ſuch perſons as chuſe to attend the debates of the General Aſſembly.

Ordered, That the conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 31, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition of the committee of the remonſtrants of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in *Philadelphia* was read, praying they may be heard by counſel againſt the bill read yeſterday, entituled "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the "declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian Church in the city of "* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with "ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Harris*'s ferry to a more central part of ſaid county, or otherwiſe annexed to the county of *Lancaſter*, or the county of *Berks*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the directions of former Houſes of Aſſembly, the Commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter*, in conjunction with a member of this Houſe, made report, relative to certain robberies ſaid to have been committed on the following Collectors of public taxes, *viz. John Brown*, *Jacob Worrall*, *Daniel Morton*, *John Pitt*, *John Davis*, *Aaron Phipps* and *Robert Thomſon*, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day, for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for the prevention of vice and immo- "rality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation,*" be poſtponed until *Monday* next.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed yeſterday, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, and after further debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed this forenoon, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, and after further debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *April* 1, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *William Alliſon*, *Robert M‘Knight*, *Samuel Young* and *Lambert Wilmore*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the year 1783 they furniſhed the three regiments of continental troops ſtationed near this city, under the command of General *Howe*, with cloathing and other neceſſaries, for the amount of which they have received notes from the Treaſury-Office of the United States; that they, being citizens of this ſtate, applied to the Comptroller-General for payment of the intereſt due on thoſe certificates, who informed them they were not entitled thereto under the late act, paſſed the 16th day of *March* 1785; therefore praying that their debt may be funded, as that of other citizens of this ſtate has been.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the day, for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* “ An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to “ prevent frauds therein,” be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, poſtponed yeſterday, reſpecting the repeal of the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, *viz.*

The committee appointed to conſider the ſeveral petitions preſented to this Houſe, praying a repeal of the law which annuls the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, made report, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the memorials of the citizens of *Philadelphia* and other parts, ſetting forth the irregular and partial conduct of the late Houſe of Aſſembly in repealing the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, and praying for a reſtoration thereof, or a ſuſpenſion of the repealing act, report——

That the ſaid memorials containing a ſtatement of proceedings adduced by the memorialiſts in ſupport of their charges againſt the late Houſe, your committee firſt had recourſe to the printed minutes, and found the ſtatement had been truly made.

That conceiving it more their duty to ſtate facts than opinions, your committee, in order to obtain information as to the reality of the complaints alledged againſt the Bank in certain petitions preſented to the late Houſe, applied to Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smilie*, members of the committee appointed by that Houſe to enquire therein, and on whoſe report a bill was brought in to repeal the ſaid charter, and requeſted to know what were the enquiries they had made in conſequence: But thoſe gentlemen, in anſwer to a queſtion put to them, ſaid, they had not called at the Bank to make themſelves acquainted with the nature of the tranſactions there, and your committee inferred generally from their converſation, that neither they, the ſaid Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smilie*, nor any of their colleagues, had made any ſpecial or occaſional enquiry whatever concerning the Bank.

The memorial mentioning the names of eight perſons who had ſtood forth as ſupporters of the petitions agaiſt the Bank, four of them, *viz.* Meſſieurs *James Pearſon*, *Robert Smith*, *William Graham* and *Frederick Heimberger*, attending your committee in purſuance of notifications ſent to them, they, the ſaid four perſons, were queſtioned as to the facts relating to the Bank conſiſtent with their own knowledge: But they declined ſatisfying your committee, further than they had not been at the Bank to gain information.

The Preſident and ſome of the Directors of the Bank alſo attending at the requeſt of your committee, they affirmed that none of the members of the committee of the late Houſe, or any of all the petitioners, had ever aſked information at the Bank concerning the conduct of that inſtitution, or the nature of its tranſactions, though they, the ſaid Preſident and Directors, had at all times been ready to give ſuch information, and had invited free enquiry.

It will follow from this relation, that the report made to the late Houſe was grounded in general notions pre-conceived, or on the current popular opinions and ſpeculations, without much conſideration being beſtowed on the ſpecial ſubject, and the ſame may at leaſt be ſaid of the petitions preſented againſt the Bank.

It will follow alſo, that the Houſe did not derive, from either members of the committee or the ſaid petitioners, thoſe clear lights which would have been neceſſary to their deliberations on ſo difficult and intereſting a ſubject, and which from the inſtructions to their committee they ſeem to have deſired.

Your committee, on examining further into the conduct of the late Houſe on this tranſaction, could not but diſcover, in ſome inſtances, a ſpirit little ſuited to the tranſient and accountable repreſentatives of a free people. In an early ſtage of the buſineſs, and when only it could have had its uſe, the Bank was denied a hearing; and when, at a later ſtage, it was yielded to the repeated inſtances of its Preſident and Directors, the permiſſion was qualified with this remark, “ that it muſt be conſidered a matter of favor, and not of right.” But the favor became nugatory through the application of a rule of order, which, obliging the counſel for the Bank to ſpeak before the counſel for the petitioners, left him to combat in the dark againſt poſſible charges and conjectural imputations. True it is he was ſuffered to make a reply to the adverſe counſel, but within a time ſo limited by the Houſe, as could ſcarcely be ſufficient for preparation in any petty cauſe in the ordinary courts.

Thus confining themſelves to facts, and to reflections naturally ariſing from them, your committee conceive the conduct of the late Houſe, in the inſtance of the Bank, to be of moſt dangerous example. In their precipitancy they broke through the procraſtinating forms of proceeding, which were fixed as fences againſt the ſudden violences of power. And in their partiality they appear to have manifeſted a pre-determination to condemn.

Your committee beg leave to remark on ſome circumſtances attending the memorials preſented to this Houſe, which ought to have conſiderable weight in their preſent deliberations. The ſubſcribers to theſe memorials are ſo numerous as to beſpeak the general ſenſe of the community. In them are included the moſt reſpectable characters amongſt us, men who, from their intercourſes and condition in life, muſt be ſuppoſed beſt experienced in the effects, good or bad, produced by the operations of the Bank, and from general knowledge moſt intelligent in the nature of ſuch inſtitutions.

As the proceedings of the late Houſe in the caſe of the Bank thus appear with all the marks of precipitancy, prejudice and partiality, the annulling act has its foundation deeply laid in injuſtice, and remains a reproach both to the government and to the people. But your committee, truſting in the wiſdom and probity of the preſent Houſe to reſtore to the ſtate its loſt honor, ſubmit the following reſolution:

That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to prepare and bring in a bill to repeal an act, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entituled* ' An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of *North-America*;" alſo one other act, entituled " *An Act for preventing and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, bank bills and bank notes of the Preſident, Directors and Company of the Bank of* North-America, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

It was moved by Mr. *Hannum*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey*,

That the words " *and that the ſaid committee be directed to inſert in ſaid repealing bill, a clauſe ſubjecting the bank to proper regulations, reſtrictions and limitations,*" be added to the ſaid report, after the words " *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

And on the queſtion—" To agree to the ſame,"

It was carried in the negative.

Whereupon, On the queſtion—" Will the Houſe adopt the reſolution recommended by the committee?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Edgar*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *James Moore,*
8 *Thomas Bull,*
9 *John Hannum,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Townſend Whelen,*
12 *Adam Hubley,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Emanuel Carpenter,*

YEAS.

15 *Joſeph Work,*
16 *Abraham Scott,*
17 *William Parr,*
18 *Henry Miller,*
19 *David M‘Conaughy,*
20 *Michael Schmyſer,*
21 *Philip Gartner,*
22 *Joſeph Lilly,*
23 *Henry Tyſon,*
24 *David M‘Clellan,*
25 *Adam Eichelberger,*
26 *George Woods,*
27 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *Iſaac Gray,*
4 *John Clark,*
5 *Arthur Erwin,*
6 *John Smith,*
7 *Joſeph Thomas,*
8 *Robert Smith,*
9 *Jonathan Morris,*
10 *Robert Whitehill,*
11 *John Carothers,*
12 *Frederick Watts,*
13 *John Creigh,*
14 *Abraham Lincoln,*
15 *Nicholas Lutz,*

NAYS.

16 *Henry Spyker,*
17 *Philip Kreemer,*
18 *David Davis,*
19 *Baltzer Gehr,*
20 *Robert Trail,*
21 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *Robert Brown,*
24 *John Piper,*
25 *Frederick Antes,*
26 *Samuel Dale,*
27 *William Todd,*
28 *William Findley,*
29 *John Hughes,*
30 *John M‘Dowell,*

N A Y S.

31 *James Edgar*,
32 *John Smilie*,
33 *James M'Calmont*,
34 *Abraham Smith*,
35 *John Rhea*,
36 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,

N A Y S.

37 *Robert Loller*,
38 *Adam Orth*,
39 *Robert Clark*,
40 *David Krouſe*,
41 *Daniel Bradley*.

So it was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at half paſt nine o'clock, A. M.

Monday, *April* 3, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Thomas Scott*, *James Marſhall* and *David Redwick*, in behalf of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, was read, ſtating divers grievances, and praying an act may be paſſed declaring and eſtabliſhing the preference of actual and (unleſs when the neceſſities of the war interrupted) continued ſettlements, to office rights of later date, and that a reaſonable time be allowed to the actual ſettlers for obtaining titles from the Land-Office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the committee of Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the trade and revenues of this ſtate are diverted from their former channels, by the act lately paſſed for laying an additional tonnage on foreign veſſels, and an additional duty on rum imported in foreign bottoms; and praying that ſo much of the ſaid act may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freemen, inhabitants of this ſtate, was read, praying that all theatrical exhibitions within this ſtate may be ſuppreſſed by a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed *March* 25th laſt, *viz.*

Reſolved, That two Delegates be added to the preſent number of Delegates, to repreſent this commonwealth, in the Congreſs of the United States.

Moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *A. Smith*,

To amend the ſame, by ſtriking out the word "*two*," in order to inſert in lieu thereof the word "*one*;"

And carried in the negative.

The original motion was then negatived.

A motion was made by Mr. *Woods*, ſeconded by Mr. *Miller*,

Reſpecting an allowance of a yearly ſalary to the Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *March* 25th, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, relative to the caſe of Corporal *Shaw*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 21ſt laſt, on the petitions of *James Lees* and *Jacob Weaver*, and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to authoriſe the Comptroller General to ſettle and adjuſt the claims of all perſons, who have not heretofore received any compenſation for their ſervants or apprentices.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *M'Conaughy*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *March* 11th laſt, on the petition of Captain *Henry Bedkin*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the ſaid *Henry Bedkin* be, and he is hereby entitled to ſuch portion of land as officers of equal rank of the late line of this ſtate, in the ſervice of the United States, are entitled to by a reſolve of Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of *March*, 1780.

The report of the committee, read *March* 24th laſt, on the petition of Lieutenant *Jacob Mytinger*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion made by Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Reſolved, That the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, read *February* 24th, the report of the committee read *March* 9th on that ſubject, the petition of the ſettlers at *Wyoming* read *March* 6th, and generally, ſuch other papers as are before this Houſe reſpecting that buſineſs, be referred to a committee, for the purpoſe of bringing in a bill to comply ſo far with the prayer of the petitions as reſpects a diviſion of the county of *Northumberland*, and appointing diſtricts for the election of Juſtices of the Peace; and that ſaid committee do alſo report ſuch other meaſures for the conſideration of this Houſe, as they ſhall think neceſſary for quieting the ſaid diſturbances.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Smilie*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church in the townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the county of* Dauphin," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for directing the ſale of ſuch of the city lots as remain the property of the ſtate, and for diſpoſing of the houſe and lots in* High-ſtreet, *in the city of* Philadelphia, *late the eſtate of* Joſeph Galloway, *and forfeited to this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for laying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of *five per centum*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for the ſuppreſſion of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation*," and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt* "*relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far* "*as the ſaid inſtrument encumbers the ſame Church with ſubjection to foreign* "*juriſdiction*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* were read, praying that the certificates given for debts due to them from this ſtate and the United States may be received in payment for their unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 2d, on the memorial of *Robert Caldwell*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 14th laſt, on the petition of *William Tharp*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 23d, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Fayette*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read *March* 25th, on the petition of the freeholders and freemen of the county of *Dauphin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *March* 29th, on the petition of the religious ſociety of friends called Free Quakers, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That eight of the city lots belonging to this commonwealth, marked in the plan or draught of the public city lots, Number thirty-four, thirty-five, thirty-ſix, thirty-ſeven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty and forty-one, ſituated contiguous to each other, on the weſt ſide of the *Fifth-ſtreet* from *Delaware* river, in the ſquare between *Walnut-ſtreet* and *Spruce-ſtreet*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, containing altogether in breadth, north and ſouth, on the ſaid *Fifth-ſtreet*, one hundred and ſeventy-ſix feet (that is to ſay, twenty-two feet each lot) and in length or depth, eaſt and weſt, one hundred and ninety-eight feet and an half, bounded northward by lot Number forty-two, ſold to *John Taylor*, eaſtward by *Fifth-ſtreet* aforeſaid, ſouthward by ground of and weſtward by the back ends of *Sixth-ſtreet* lots, with their appurtenances, be, and the ſame are granted to the aforeſaid religious ſociety, and that the ſaid ſociety have leave to bring in a bill to confirm to them and their heirs the aforeſaid lots, for the purpoſes ſet forth in their petition.

The report of the committee, read *March* 20th, on the petition of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, and the petition of *Charles Beſſonett*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of *Joſeph Baldwin* and *Joſeph Vandegrift* cannot be granted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for confirming and amending the charter of the* "German *Reformed Congregation, in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the county of*

Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," which was read *March* 24th, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian Congregation of* Benſalem, *in the county of* Bucks," which was read *March* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower and direct* Ann M'Farren, John Agnew *and* William M'Clean, *adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of* Amos M'Ginley, *deceaſed, to convey certain lands in* Hamilton's Ban *and* Cumberland *townſhips, in* York *county, to ſundry perſons, for whom the ſaid* Amos M'Ginley *was a truſtee, and to veſt the ſame in the grantees,*" which was read *March* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to eſtabliſh and incorporate the public ſchool of *Germantown,* in the county of *Philadelphia,*" which was read *March* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Maryland *and* Virginia *to lay out and improve a road within the limits of this ſtate, between the waters of the river* Potomack *and of the river* Ohio," poſtponed *March* 15th; and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein;" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow morning.

On motion, *Ordered,* That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report, poſtponed *March* 30th laſt, reſpecting the annual expenditures of the civil liſt.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, April 4, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Benjamin Jacobs, Jonathan Morris,* junior, and *Griffith Evans,* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Cheſter.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh,* and for the

" preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act for erecting the upper part of the county of* Northumberland *into a new " county,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* " An " Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent " frauds therein."

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To inſert the following clauſe, *viz.*

And whereas it was alſo enacted and provided by the ſaid recited act, That the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the ſeveral counties, at their general quarter ſeſſions, ſhall nominate three able and intelligent freeholders, reſiding within the diſtrict of any county which is divided into diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding elections, or otherwiſe reſiding within the county, as judges of election to be holden in each diſtrict or place as aforeſaid.

And whereas the ſaid mode of nominating has been conſidered as a dangerous innovation in the former laws, which gave the appointment of the judges of elections to inſpectors choſen by the freeholders.

Be it therefore enacted, That the inſpectors who ſhall be choſen in purſuance of the ſaid act, or a majority of them, ſhall, on the morning of the day of any election, at their meeting in the place appointed for the diſtricts to which they belong, chooſe and take to their aſſiſtance three reputable and diſcreet perſons, who, with the Sheriff or Coroner (if he be preſent) ſhall be judges of the election.

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Hubley*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Thomas Bull,*
13 *John Hannum,*
14 *Robert Smith,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Jonathan Morris,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*

YEAS.

21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Abraham Scott,*
23 *William Parr,*
24 *Henry Miller,*
25 *David M'Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *Philip Gartner,*
28 *Joſeph Lilly,*
29 *Henry Tyſon,*
30 *David M'Clellan,*
31 *Adam Eichelberger,*
32 *Robert Trail,*
33 *Robert Brown,*
34 *George Woods,*
35 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
36 *John Hughes,*
37 *Robert Loller,*
38 *Samuel Wheeler,*
39 *David Krouſe.*

NAYS.
1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Philip Kreemer,*
13 *David Davis,*
14 *Baltzer Gehr,*
15 *Peter Trexler,* jun.

NAYS.
16 *Peter Burkhalter,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *Frederick Antes,*
19 *Samuel Dale,*
20 *William Todd,*
21 *William Findley,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *James Edgar,*
24 *John Smilie,*
25 *James M'Calmont,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *John Rhea,*
28 *Adam Orth,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Logan,* and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris,*

To inſert the following clauſe, *viz.*

And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That no perſon ſhall vote at any election for Repreſentatives in General Aſſembly, who does not produce a receipt from the collector of taxes of the ward, diſtrict or townſhip where he reſides, of his having paid his taxes for the year preceding ſuch election, excepting the ſons of freeholders, of the age of twenty-one years, who ſhall be entitled to a vote, although they have not paid taxes.

Moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Robinſon,*

To amend the ſaid motion, by ſtriking out the words "*does not produce a receipt from the collector of taxes of the ward, diſtrict or townſhip where he reſides,*" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "*ſhall not produce ſufficient evidence of his having paid the ſtate taxes for the year preceding ſuch election.*"

And determined in the negative.

On the queſtion,—"To agree to the original motion?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *J. Clark,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *George Clymer,*
3 *John Salter,*
4 *George Logan,*
5 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.
6 *Alexander Lowrey,*
7 *Abraham Scott,*
8 *William Parr,*
9 *George Woods,*
10 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.
1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Clark,*
7 *Arthur Erwin,*

NAYS.
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *John Smith,*
10 *Joſeph Thomas,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Thomas Bull,*
14 *John Hannum,*

NAYS.

15 *Robert Smith,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Jonathan Morris,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *Henry Miller,*
22 *David M'Conaughy,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *Philip Gartner,*
25 *Joſeph Lilly,*
26 *Henry Tyſon,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Adam Eichelberger,*
29 *Robert Whitehill,*
30 *John Carothers,*
31 *Frederick Watts,*
32 *John Creigh,*
33 *Abraham Lincoln,*
34 *Nicholas Lutz,*
35 *Henry Spyker,*
36 *Philip Kreemer,*
37 *David Davis,*

NAYS.

38 *Baltzer Gehr,*
39 *Robert Trail,*
40 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
41 *Peter Burkhalter,*
42 *Robert Brown,*
43 *John Piper,*
44 *Frederick Antes,*
45 *Samuel Dale,*
46 *William Todd,*
47 *William Findley,*
48 *John Hughes,*
49 *John M'Dowell,*
50 *James Edgar,*
51 *John Smilie,*
52 *James M'Calmont,*
53 *Abraham Smith,*
54 *John Rhea,*
55 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
56 *Robert Loller,*
57 *Adam Orth,*
58 *Robert Clark,*
59 *David Krouſe,*
60 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The aforeſaid bill having been fully debated,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The report of the committee, read *March* 18th laſt, on the petition of *William Hay,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *William Hay,* beg leave to report.——

Your committee, having duly conſidered the prayer of the petition, and other circumſtances concerning the ſame, do find, that the petitioner ſtands indebted to the ſtate in a large ſum of money, much more than his eſtate will bring at public ſale; the conſequence of which is, the ſtate will not be paid, and the petitioner will be ruined; the petitioner is alſo poſſeſſed of ſundry final ſettlements to a large amount, which in juſtice he ought to be credited by this ſtate for the ſame.

Your committee beg leave to offer for conſideration, whether it would not be more advantage to the ſtate, that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to accept of ſaid final ſettlements as part payment of ſaid debt, and to take a mortgage on the petitioner's eſtate for the remainder, giving him ſome farther time.

And on the queſtion—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"

It was carried in the negative.

The memorial of the committee of Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read *March* 23d laſt, on the petition of divers non-reſident holders of land in the townſhips of *Wyoming*, *Stoke* and *Shawaneſe*, &c. was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to exonerate the owners of lands, the ſettlement of which has been impeded, and the value greatly leſſened by the influence of the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, from the payment of taxes aſſeſſed and laid thereon ſince the year 1780; and that the committee deſcribe in ſaid bill, by proper boundaries, the tract of country where the ſaid exonerations ought to be ſo made.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Woods*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for veſting certain lots therein mentioned in the truſtees, for a burial* "*ground, for the uſe of the religious ſociety of Free Quakers, in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, on the petition of *James Montgomery*, poſtponed *March* 24th laſt; and after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Cheſter*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, *and* "*for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *April* 5, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John M'Dowell*, of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter for the Probate of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds for ſaid county, become vacant by the death of the late officer.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Smith*, junior, and *Thomas Harwood*, of the ſtate of *Maryland*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are poſſeſſed of mines which will produce large quantities of ſilver and copper; and that as there is, throughout the United States, a diſtreſſing ſcarcity of ſpecie, they conceive thoſe mines may be made advantageous to the public, by a part of their produce being coined; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, to ſecure to them an excluſive right of coinage, either to a certain amount, or for a period of time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the returns of property, and the aſſeſſment of taxes thereon for the year 1785, for the county of *Fayette*.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the memorial of the committee of the Merchants and Traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *April* 3d, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of ſuch citizens of this ſtate, whoſe ſervants or* "*apprentices were enliſted in the armies of the United States during the late war,* "*and who have not received any compenſation therefor,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee on the expenditures of the civil liſt was read the ſecond time, and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"That the pay of the Secretary of Council, including allowance for Clerk, be *ſix hundred pounds* per annum."

It was moved by Mr. *Miller*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hannum*,

To inſert after the words "*ſix hundred,*" the words "*and fifty.*"

And on the queſtion "Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomes Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Samuel Foulke,*
7 *James Moore,*
8 *Thomas Bull,*
9 *John Hannum,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Townſend Whelen,*
12 *Adam Hubley,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Joſeph Work,*
15 *Abraham Scott,*
16 *William Parr,*
17 *Henry Miller,*
18 *David M'Conaughy,*
19 *Philip Gartner,*
20 *Joſeph Lilly,*
21 *Henry Tyſon,*
22 *David M'Clellan,*
23 *Robert Whitehill,*
24 *Frederick Watts,*
25 *John Creigh,*
26 *Abraham Lincoln,*
27 *Nicholas Lutz,*
28 *George Woods,*
29 *James Edgar,*
30 *John Smilie,*
31 *Abraham Smith,*
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
33 *Robert Loller,*
34 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *John Salter,*
3 *George Logan,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *John Clark,*
6 *Arthur Erwin,*
7 *John Smith,*
8 *Joſeph Thomas,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Jonathan Morris,*
12 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
13 *Michael Schmyſer,*
14 *Adam Eichelberger,*
15 *John Carothers,*
16 *Henry Spyker,*
17 *Philip Kreemer,*
18 *David Davis,*
19 *Baltſer Gehr,*
20 *Robert Trail,*
21 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *Robert Brown,*
24 *John Piper,*
25 *Frederick Antes,*
26 *Samuel Dale,*
27 *William Todd,*
28 *William Findley,*

NAYS.

29 *John Hughes,*
30 *John M'Dowell,*
31 *James M'Calmont,*
32 *John Rhea,*

NAYS.

33 *Adam Orth,*
34 *Robert Clark,*
35 *David Krouſe,*
36 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative, and the original paragraph adopted.

In debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

That from and after the day of the daily pay of the members of the General Aſſembly during their attendance be *ten ſhillings.*

It was moved by Mr. *Miller,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe,*

That the words "*ten ſhillings*" be ſtruck out, and that the words "*twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence*" be inſerted in lieu thereof.

And carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the aforeſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the expenditures of the civil liſt, poſtponed this forenoon.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

That the ſalary of the Chief Juſtice be *one thouſand pounds* per annum, and of each of the Aſſiſtant Judges *ſix hundred pounds* per annum, but that no expences by them incurred ſhall hereafter be paid by the counties, or out of the treaſury,

A diviſion of the queſtion on the paragraph was called for, *viz.*

That a ſeparate queſtion be taken on that part which reſpects the ſalaries of the Judges: Whereupon,

The queſtion being accordingly divided and ſtated,

The previous queſtion was moved by Mr. *Smilie,* Mr. *J. Irvine,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Loller:* Upon which

It was moved by Mr. *Miller,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey,*

To poſtpone the whole of the ſaid paragraph; which was

Carried in the affirmative.

Moved by Mr. *R. Morris,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

To re-conſider ſo much of the ſaid paragraph as reſpects the expences incurred by the Judges, for the purpoſe of re-committing it, and

Carried in the negative.

Moved by Mr. *Loller,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Trexler,*

That the further conſideration of the aforeſaid report be poſtponed.

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Hannum,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *John Clark,*
3 *Alexander Lowrey,*

YEAS.

4 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
5 *David M'Conaughy,*
6 *Philip Gartner,*

YEAS.

7 *Henry Tyſon,*
8 *David M'Clellan,*
9 *Robert Whitehill,*
10 *John Carothers,*
11 *Frederick Watts,*
12 *John Creigh,*
13 *Abraham Lincoln,*
14 *Nicholas Lutz,*
15 *Henry Spyker,*
16 *Philip Kreemer,*
17 *Baltſer Gehr,*
18 *Robert Trail,*
19 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
20 *Peter Burkhalter,*

YEAS.

21 *John Piper,*
22 *Frederick Antes,*
23 *William Todd,*
24 *William Findley,*
25 *John M'Dowell,*
26 *James Edgar,*
27 *John Smilie,*
28 *James M'Calmont,*
29 *Abraham Smith,*
30 *John Rhea,*
31 *Robert Loller,*
32 *Adam Orth,*
33 *Robert Clark,*
34 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Arthur Erwin,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *John Smith,*
11 *Joſeph Thomas,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Thomas Bull,*
15 *John Hannum,*
16 *Robert Smith,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*

NAYS.

18 *Jonathan Morris,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Abraham Scott,*
23 *William Parr,*
24 *Henry Miller,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *Joſeph Lilly,*
27 *Adam Eichelberger,*
28 *David Davis,*
29 *George Woods,*
30 *Samuel Dale,*
31 *John Hughes,*
32 *Samuel Wheeler,*
33 *David Krouſe.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting certain city lots therein mentioned* "*in the truſtees, for a burial-ground, for the uſe of the religious ſociety of Free* "*Quakers, in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian* "*Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers* "*the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, *April* 6, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Chairman of the Honorable the Congreſs of the United States was read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR, *New-York*, *April* 1, 1786.

CONGRESS have, ſince their late act of the 15th of laſt *February*, relative to revenue, received official accounts that *Rhode-Iſland* has acceded to the impoſt. News-papers and private letters inform that *Georgia* and *Maryland* have done the ſame. There are good reaſons to believe that the legiſlature of *New-York* will, in their preſent ſeſſion, in like manner adopt it. Should theſe hopes be realized, there will be no obſtruction to the immediate operation of the continental impoſt, but the non-compliance of ſeveral ſtates with the recommendations of Congreſs of the 18th of *April* 1783, to eſtabliſh ſupplementary funds in addition to the impoſt, or the proviſoes in the *Pennſylvania* and *Delaware* grants of the *five per cent.* reſtraining their operation till all the ſtates had complied with both parts of the revenue ſyſtem of that date. From this ſtatement of facts it follows, that the impoſt muſt be unproductive, though acceded to by all the ſtates, till either all have eſtabliſhed ſupplementary funds, or till *Pennſylvania* and *Delaware* reviſe the proviſoes of their grants, reſtraining their operation till that event takes place. It is ſubmitted to the good ſenſe of *Pennſylvania*, whether it would not be advancive of the common intereſt of the union, to give immediate efficiency to the general impoſt as ſoon as it ſhall be agreed to by all the ſtates, without waiting for the eſtabliſhment of the ſupplementary funds in aid thereof. Should *New-York*, as is expected, adopt it, and the collection thereof be delayed till all the ſtates paſs the ſupplementary funds, a large ſum of money, much wanted for fœderal purpoſes, will be prevented from coming into the treaſury of the United States. As many of the legiſlatures of theſe ſtates which have not fully complied with the whole revenue ſyſtem are not in ſeſſion, much time muſt neceſſarily be conſumed before the ſupplementary funds can be univerſally eſtabliſhed, even though all the ſtates were well diſpoſed to their adoption. It is much to be wiſhed that the ſupplementary funds and the impoſt had gone hand in hand. Congreſs, in every act of theirs, have aſſociated them as eſſential parts on one ſyſtem, and it is their determination to urge the adoption of both; but as the preſent neceſſities of the union are great, they conceive it to be their duty to attempt the removal of every obſtruction to the immediate productiveneſs of that part of the ſyſtem, which promiſes to bring the ſpeedieſt and ampleſt ſupplies into the fœderal treaſury. The ſtates which have adopted the ſupplementary funds have now under reference from Congreſs a very preſſing recommendation in their favor. The ſtates of *Pennſylvania* and *Delaware* are alſo requeſted to reviſe the proviſoes in their reſpective grants, ſo as to give immediate operation to the impoſt when it ſhall be acceded to by all the ſtates. Anxious for the reſtoration of public credit, Congreſs wiſh to give inſtant efficiency to every plan that favors that deſirable purpoſe.—This application would have been delayed till the determination of *New-York* on the ſubject of the general impoſt was known, and till the official acts of *Maryland* and *Georgia* on the ſame ſubject had arrived; but it was apprehended that the ſhortneſs of your ſeſſion would not admit of this delay.

It is with regret that Congreſs requeſt any alteration even in the proviſoes of a law, which is acknowledged to be conformable to their own recommendations; but ſuch is the nature of our government, that any efficiency it poſſeſſes muſt ariſe from a diſpoſition of accommodation in the ſtates to each other, and of Congreſs to all. In obedience to the orders of Congreſs, in the chair of which I have the honor to ſit in the abſence of Mr. Preſident *Hancock*, I requeſt the favor of you to bring this matter under the conſideration of the legiſlature of your ſtate, as ſoon as circumſtances will permit.

I have the honor to be, with great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and
Very humble ſervant,
DAVID RAMSAY.

The Hon. THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*

The encloſures were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid letter and encloſures were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *R. Morris*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

A letter from *Francis Bailey*, printer, was read, ſetting forth, that he has one hundred and ninety-eight volumes of the printed laws of this commonwealth, which he will furniſh the Houſe with at a reaſonable price.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Abraham Witmer* was read, ſetting forth the great inconveniencies travellers are expoſed to for want of a bridge being erected acroſs the *Coneſtogoe* creek, on the great road leading to *Lancaſter*, and ſtating the terms on which he would erect the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Perſifor Frazer* was read, praying to be appointed to the offices of Regiſter of Wills *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers coopers and packers of ſhad and herring for exportation from this ſtate was read, praying for alterations in the act of Aſſembly of the late province of *Pennſylvania*, paſſed the 24th of *December*, 1774, entituled "*An Act to prevent frauds in the packing and preſerving ſhad and herring for exportation.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 14th laſt, on the memorial of *Edward Stiles*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of the committee of the merchants and traders of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the committee of Merchants of this city, report——

That from the ſaid memorial, as well as other information, it appears that the tonnage impoſed on veſſels belonging to foreign kingdoms and ſtates, who have not entered into treaties of commerce with the United States, and the duty on rum imported into this ſtate in veſſels belonging to a foreign ſtate or kingdom, by an act paſſed on the 20th day of *September*, 1785, entituled "*An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate,*" *&c.* will be the means of injuring, in a very high degree, the revenue and commerce of this ſtate, if continued; becauſe veſſels of that deſcription, and rum ſubject to the aforeſaid duty, are admitted into the neighbouring ſtates without any charge or duty whatſoever.

The committee therefore recommend,

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for leſſening the tonnage on veſſels of the abovementioned deſcription, and repealing ſo much of the act aforeſaid as impoſes a duty of *ſix pence* per gallon on rum.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Findley*, be the committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *March* 25th, on the petition of *Alexander M'Clean*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Alexander M'Clean*, as alſo the letter from the Surveyor General relative to the ſaid petition, report,——

That they have attended to ſaid petition and letter, and the ſum of *fifty-nine pounds* and *four ſhillings* for ſurveying the reſerved tracts of ſix thouſand acres, charged by ſaid *Alexander M'Clean*, is ſomewhat leſs than what is allowed by law for ſurveying an equal quantity in the depreciation land, and the ſervice appears to be compleat in itſelf.

Your committee are alſo of opinion, that as the petitioner performed the ſervice in running the northern boundary and meridian line by the expreſs orders of the Surveyor General, and as the running thoſe lines appears to have been neceſſary to fix the boundary of the diſtricts of the depreciation land, and no proviſion being made by law for the payment of the petitioner, and it appears to your committee, by the charge of the ſaid Mr. *M'Clean*, that he ſpent twenty-four days in performing ſaid ſervice,

Your committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That   per day be allowed him for running ſaid lines, and that *fifty-nine pounds four ſhillings* be allowed him for ſurveying, draughting and returning the ſix thouſand acres for the uſe of the ſtate; and that a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the ſtate treaſurer in favor of *Alexander M'Clean* for the ſum aforeſaid, as a compenſation for the above ſervice.

Ordered, That Mr. *Watts*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Smilie*, be the committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon *College, in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to the ſtate, as a fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Joſeph Gardner* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *April* 3d, on the petition of *William Tharp*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from the Chairman of the Honorable Congreſs, with its encloſures, made by their Chairman a verbal report, *viz.*

That they had fully conſidered the matters referred to them, and are unanimouſly of opinion, that this Houſe ſhould, upon the preſent occaſion, act conſiſtently with the conduct of former Aſſemblies in ſupport of fœderal meaſures, and the recommendations of Congreſs of *April* 18th, 1783, for eſtabliſhing a general impoſt and ſupplementary funds for twenty-five years, for the payment of the principal and intereſt of the foreign and domeſtic debts due by the United States: Therefore,

The committee are unanimouſly of opinion, that the bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for levying a duty on certain enu-" merated articles, and an impoſt of *five per centum*, &c." be forthwith enacted into a law, as a full compliance, on the part of *Pennſylvania*, with the fœderal ſyſtem of finance, propoſed in the ſaid requiſition of Congreſs by their act of *April* 18th, 1783.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for dividing* Mulberry *ward, in the city of* " Philadelphia, *into two ſeparate wards*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe this forenoon, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act to encourage " and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the " importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe this forenoon, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for recompenſing* Alexander M'Clean, *Eſquire, for ſundry* " *public ſervices done by him in ſurveys made on the lands within this ſtate, on the* " *northweſt ſide of the river* Ohio," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *April* 3d, on the petition of Corporal *John Shaw*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the caſe of Corporal *John Shaw*, recommended by the Supreme Executive Council, report,——

That having beſtowed the proper conſideration on the meſſage of Council and the certificates accompanying it, they are of opinion, that the ſai *Shaw* being diſabled in the public ſervice, he ought to be relieved by the public bounty; but as that bounty is limited by the terms of the ſubſiſting laws to ſoldiers of the late fœderal army, and to militia men of this ſtate, in neither of which capacities he is entitled to claim, ſome new legiſlative proviſion becomes neceſſary for his relief, and which ought in reaſon to extend to all ſuch as are and may be in ſimilar circumſtances.

They therefore recommend the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed to bring in a ſupplement to the act, entituled "*An Act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the United States*," in order to extend the ſame relief to officers and ſoldiers of any troops, which have or may be raiſed for the ſervice of the ſtate ſince the late war.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Creigh* and Mr. *Todd*, be the committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for levying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of *five per centum ad valorem, &c. &c.*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Griffith Evans* have leave to withdraw his petition preſented *April* 4th.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *April* 7, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Hannum*, Eſquire, member of this Houſe, was read, praying leave to reſign his ſeat; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That his reſignation be accepted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the member who preſented the petition of *Jonathan Morris*, junior, *April* 4th, have leave to withdraw the ſame.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hannum* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, for the county of *Cheſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter of Wills and for granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and Recorder of Deeds, for the county of *Cheſter*, in the place of the late *John Beaton*, Eſquire, deceaſed, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Perſifor Frazer*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for recompenſing* Alexander M'Clean, *Eſquire, for ſundry public ſervices done by him in ſurveys made on the lands within this ſtate, on the north-weſt ſide of the river* Ohio," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The report of the committee, read *April* 6th, on the petition of *Edward Stiles*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

An addreſs and memorial from the committee of Manufacturers and Mechanics, in the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſuggeſting divers alterations in the bill, entituled "*An Act to encourage and protect the manufacturs of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them.*"

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for dividing* Mulberry *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into two ſeparate wards.*

An ACT *for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to the ſtate, as a fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the* 44*th ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh*, and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed on the petition of *George Schloſſer* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to relieve the owners of unimproved lands from the inconveniencies they are ſubjected to by the preſent mode of enforcing the payment of taxes aſſeſſed thereon*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for directing the ſale of ſuch of the city lots as remain the property of the ſtate, and for diſpoſing of the houſe and lots in* High-ſtreet, *in the city of* Philadelphia, *late the eſtate of* Joſeph Galloway, *and forfeited to this commonwealth*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A motion was made Mr. *R. Morris*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the petitions and memorials reſpecting the bank having for their object, that the act repealing the charter of the bank of *North-America* ſhould be repealed or ſuſpended, and this Houſe having determined againſt the repeal of the ſaid repealing act, it is proper that the Houſe ſhould determine upon the alternative propoſed: Therefore,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to ſuſpend for years the operation of the act, entituled "*An Act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the bank

“ of *North-America*;” alſo one other act, entituled “ *An Act for preventing* “ *and puniſhing the counterfeiting of the common ſeal, bank bills and bank notes* “ *of the Preſident, Directors and Company of the Bank of* North-America, “ *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*,” paſſed the 13th day of *September* laſt.

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Hubley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *John Salter*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Robert Ralſton*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Thomas Bull*,
11 *Samuel Evans*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Adam Hubley*,
14 *Alexander Lowrey*,
15 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
16 *Joſeph Work*,
17 *Abraham Scott*,
18 *William Parr*,
19 *Henry Miller*,
20 *David M‘Conaughy*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *Philip Gartner*,
23 *Joſeph Lilly*,
24 *Henry Tyſon*,
25 *David M‘Clellan*,
26 *Adam Eichelberger*,
27 *George Woods*,
28 *Samuel Wheeler*.

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine*,
2 *Iſaac Gray*,
3 *John Clark*,
4 *Arthur Erwin*,
5 *John Smith*,
6 *Robert Smith*,
7 *Robert Whitehill*,
8 *John Carothers*,
9 *Frederick Watts*,
10 *John Creigh*,
11 *Abraham Lincoln*,
12 *Nicholas Lutz*,
13 *Henry Spyker*,
14 *Philip Kreemer*,
15 *David Davis*,
16 *Baltzer Gehr*,
17 *Robert Trail*,
18 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
19 *Peter Burkhalter*,
20 *Robert Brown*,
21 *Frederick Antes*,
22 *Samuel Dale*,
23 *William Todd*,
24 *William Findley*,
25 *John Hughes*,
26 *John M‘Dowell*,
27 *James Edgar*,
28 *John Smilie*,
29 *James M‘Calmont*,
30 *Abraham Smith*,
31 *John Rhea*,
32 *Robert Loller*,
33 *Adam Orth*,
34 *Robert Clark*,
35 *David Krouſe*,
36 *Daniel Bradley*.

So it was carried in the negative.

DISSENTIENT,

1ſt. BECAUSE we conceive that this Houſe hath no power to revoke a charter which it hath granted. Inſtances adduced from *Great-Britain*, or from any other country, are equally pernicious and inapplicable. The conſtitution of *Pennſylvania* hath expreſly deſignated and limited the power of the legiſlature. Every act which exceeds thoſe limits is an uſurpation on the rights of our fellow-citizens; and if the conduct of the *Britiſh* Parliament be a ſufficient ſanction for ſuch exceſſes, this Houſe, like that of Parliament, may extend its own exiſtence for ſeven years, and deprive the people of their right to annual elections.

2d. Becauſe the act for repealing the charter of the Bank contains and is grounded upon an aſſertion that the Bank hath proved injurious to the ſtate, which is deſtitute not only of evidence, but of truth, and hath accordingly been given up in the arguments on this queſtion.

3d. Becauſe, even if the authority of this Houſe was admitted, yet the act in queſtion would be unjuſtifiable. The Stockholders of the Bank have a property in their charter, and to deprive our fellow-citizens of their property, without even the form of trial, is a meaſure moſt dangerous and moſt tyrannical.

4th. Becauſe we conceive the repeal of that charter to be as unwiſe as it is unjuſt. If the attempt to overturn the Bank ſhould prove ineffectual, it will ſhew at once imbecility and iniquity; but if it ſhould ſucceed, it will give a ſevere wound to the commerce of *Pennſylvania*, and conſequently to every order of her citizens: For we conceive it to be indiſputable, that the agriculture, manufactures and commerce of this commonwealth are ſo intimately connected, that no injury can be inflicted on one, which will not ſenſibly affect the others.

Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
George Clymer,
William Robinſon, jun.
Samuel Evans,
Adam Hubley, jun.
William Parr,
Henry Miller,
Alexander Lowrey,
Joſeph Lilly,
John Salter,
Thomas Bull,
George Woods,
Abraham Scott,
Joſeph Work,
Emanuel Carpenter,
George Logan,
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Samuel Wheeler,
Michael Schmyſer,
David M‘Clellan,
Philip Gartner,
Adam Eichelberger,
Henry Tyſon,
David M‘Conaughy,
Townſend Whelen.

The petition of *Abraham Witmore*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Parr*, Mr. *Woods* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon.

The letter from *Francis Bailey*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Trail*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for lending the ſum of* three hundred pounds "*to* Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of* "*manufacturing bar-iron into ſteel*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—"Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Fitzſimons,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *Iſaac Gray,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *James Moore,*
9 *Thomas Bull,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Townſend Whelen,*
12 *Adam Hubley,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Joſeph Work,*
15 *Abraham Scott,*
16 *William Parr,*

YEAS.
17 *John Carothers,*
18 *Frederick Watts,*
19 *John Creigh,*
20 *Nicholas Lutz,*
21 *Philip Kreemer,*
22 *George Woods,*
23 *John Piper,*
24 *William Findley,*
25 *William Todd,*
26 *John Hughes,*
27 *James M‘Calmont,*
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
29 *Adam Orth,*
30 *Robert Clark,*
31 *David Krouſe.*

NAYS.
1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Samuel Evans,*
7 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
8 *David M‘Conaughy,*
9 *Michael Schmyſer,*
10 *Philip Gartner,*
11 *Joſeph Lilly,*
12 *David M‘Clellan,*
13 *Adam Eichelberger,*
14 *Robert Whitehill,*
15 *Abraham Lincoln,*

NAYS.
16 *Henry Spyker,*
17 *David Davis,*
18 *Baltſer Gehr,*
19 *Robert Trail,*
20 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
21 *Peter Burkhalter,*
22 *Robert Brown,*
23 *Frederick Antes,*
24 *Samuel Dale,*
25 *John M‘Dowell,*
26 *James Edgar,*
27 *John Smilie,*
28 *Abraham Smith,*
29 *John Rhea.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Calmont,*

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be and they are hereby authoriſed, empowered and required to examine, count and deſtroy the bills of credit of this ſtate, dated the 7th day of *April,* 1781, now in the treaſury, and report to this Houſe at their next ſeſſion.

The petition of *Peter Jedon,* read *March* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members of the county of *Bucks,* to report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday,

Saturday, *April* 8, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the Speaker be authoriſed and required to draw upon the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Samuel Bryan,* Eſquire, Clerk of this Houſe, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds,* to be applied towards paying the contingent expences of the General Aſſembly, the ſaid *Samuel Bryan* to account therefor.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Peter Jedon,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the ſaid petition be referred to the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bucks,* where the robbery was committed, who, together with one member of this Houſe for ſaid county, ſhall proceed to enquire into the circumſtances attending the ſame, and report ſpecially to this or the next Aſſembly, whether the ſaid *Jedon* was actually robbed, and likewiſe of what ſum, and what length of time he retained ſuch ſum in his hands; and generally, whether ſuch robbery has happened from any neglect or miſconduct in the officer.

The report of the committee of accounts, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed and required to draw on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* for *one hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings and nine-pence,* in full of their account; in favor of *Jacob Lahn,* for *one pound and ten ſhillings,* in full of his account; in favor of *Melchior Steiner,* for *nineteen pounds two ſhillings and ſix-pence,* in full of his account; in favor of *Thomas Bradford,* for *one hundred pounds,* in part of his account for printing.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for " levying a duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of *five per* " *centum ad valorem* on all other goods, wares and merchandize, imported in- " to this ſtate, and a tax upon real and perſonal property, for the diſcharge of " the debts of the United States of *America,* agreeable to acts of Congreſs " therein recited, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act " to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional " duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with " them," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The report of the committee, read *March* 25th laſt, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Lower-Smithfield* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the inhabitants of *Lower-Smithfield* townſhip, in *Northampton* county, report——

That they have taken the caſe of the petitioners into conſideration, and apprehend that it would be improper for this Houſe to interfere with the executive branches of government, in which the power of redreſs in ſuch caſes has been and is veſted.—That they find the caſe of the petitioners has been before the Supreme Executive Council, who have already granted them a temporary relief, and under whoſe cognizance the ſubject more properly comes.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution to the conſideration of the Houſe:

Reſolved, That the petition of the inhabitants of *Lower-Smithfield* townſhip, *Northampton* county, relative to their aſſeſſment of taxes, be referred to the Supreme Executive Council.

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"—

It was carried in the negative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of Lieutenant *Jacob Mytinger,* poſtponed *April* 3d: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the ſaid *Jacob Mytinger* be, and he is hereby entitled to the ſame quantity of land as hath been granted to officers of equal rank in the late *Pennſylvania* line, agreeably to a reſolution of the General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of *March,* 1780.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed *March* 16th laſt, reſpecting the right of Deputy Surveyors being admitted to take a ſeat in the legiſlature.

After ſome debate thereon,

It was, on motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Evans,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to relieve the owners of unimproved lands from* " *the inconveniencies they are ſubjected to by the preſent mode of enforcing the pay-* " *ment of taxes,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting the upper part of the county of* " Northumberland *into a new county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for directing the ſale of ſuch of the city lots as remain the property of the ſtate, and for diſpoſing of the houſe and lots in* High-ſtreet, *in the city of* Philadelphia, *late the eſtate of* Joseph Galloway, *and forfeited to this commonwealth.*"

An ACT *for lending the ſum of* three hundred pounds *to* Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of manufacturing bar-iron into ſteel.*

An ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and " protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the " importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them."

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act for levying a duty on " certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of *five per centum ad valorem* on " all goods, wares and merchandize, for the diſcharge of the debts of the " United States of *America,* agreeably to acts of Congreſs therein recited, and " for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

A member preſented to the chair tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments on all taxable property and perſons within the county of *Northumberland*, for the years 1781, 1782, 1783 and 1784, which were

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the aſſeſſments on all taxable property and perſons within the county of *Bucks*, for the year 1785, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the aſſeſſments on all taxable property and perſons within the county of *Franklin*, for the year 1785, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the aſſeſſments on all taxable property and perſons within the county of *Waſhington*, for the year 1785, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the aſſeſſments on all taxable property and perſons within the county of *Fayette*, for the year 1785, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act for raiſing the ſum "of *forty-two thouſand dollars*, for improving the public roads leading from "the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*."

II. *An* ACT *for incorporating the Society, known by the name and ſtile of* The Mutual Aſſurance Company, *for inſuring houſes from loſs by fire, and confirming the articles of agreement of the contributors, and to enable them to make ſuitable bye-laws for the better management and proſecution of their ſaid deſign.*

III. *An* ACT *for the incorporating the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church, commonly called* Bangor *Church and School, in* Church-town, Carnarvon *townſhip, and county of* Lancaſter.

IV. *An* ACT *for the further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United States, and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate every ſix months.*

V. *An* ACT *to aſcertain the number of taxable inhabitants within the city of* Philadelphia, *and in each of the counties of this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

VI. *An* ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act to remedy the "defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the "elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a "permanent mode of holding ſuch elections, and to authoriſe the Juſtices of "the Peace of the city of *Philadelphia* to hold the courts of record of the city, "and to make further proviſion for the election and return of Juſtices of the "Peace elect."

VII. *An* ACT *for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip.*

VIII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation belonging to St.* Peter's *Church, in the* Great Valley, *in the townſhip of* Tredyffrin, *and county of* Cheſter.

IX. *An* ACT *for removing the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Chapel of St.* Thomas, *in* Carnarvon *townſhip,* Berks *county, and for incorporating the congregation thereof.*

X. *An* ACT *for complying with the requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the ſervices of the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, and for paying one year's intereſt on the foreign and domeſtic debts.*

XI. *An* ACT *for the relief of ſuch officers, late of the ſtate navy, as were made priſoners of war previous to the derangement in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-eight, and were afterwards honorably diſcharged, and of the widows and children of ſuch officers who died during their captivity.*

XII. *An* ACT *to provide for the payment of the principal and intereſt of ſuch of the bills emitted purſuant to reſolution of Congreſs of the eighteenth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, and an act of the legiſlature of this ſtate of* June *the firſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, as ſhall remain unredeemed on the thirty-firſt day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix.*

XIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for veſting in " the *American* Philoſophical Society, held at *Philadelphia*, for the promot- " ing uſeful knowledge, a certain lot of ground, being part of the State- " Houſe ſquare."

XIV. *An* ACT *for repealing ſo much of a law, paſſed in* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, for raiſing the ſum of* ninety-three thouſand ſix hundred and forty pounds ten ſhillings, *annually, for ſix years, as relates to the payment of the laſt four annual taxes therein directed to be laid.*

XV. *An* ACT *to repeal an act, entituled* " An Act to ſuſpend an act of " General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, entituled " A Supplement to an " Act, entituled " An Act to enable *William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John* " *Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon* and *Joſeph Davis*, to build a " new Court-houſe and Priſon in the county of *Cheſter*, and to ſell the old " Court-houſe and Priſon in the borough of *Cheſter*."

XVI. *An* ACT *authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint a Commiſſioner to view and open a road from the* Lehigh Water Gap, *in the county of* Northampton, *to* Wyoming, *in the county of* Northumberland, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVII. *An* ACT *to empower the Wardens of the city of* Philadelphia *to extend the Market-houſe in* High-ſtreet *from* Third-ſtreet *to* Fourth-ſtreet, *from* Delaware *river, and to continue the ſame from time to time weſtwardly, from one ſtreet to another, in the middle of* High-ſtreet, *as the Wardens of the ſaid city ſhall think neceſſary, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVIII. *An* ACT *for the preſent relief and future endowment of* Dickinſon *College, in the borough of* Carliſle, *and county of* Cumberland, *in this ſtate, and for reſerving part of the unappropriated lands belonging to this ſtate as a fund for the endowment of public ſchools, agreeably to the forty-fourth ſection of the conſtitution of this commonwealth.*

XIX. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh and confirm the title of the aſſigns of* Nathaniel Taylor, *in a certain meſſuage and tract of land in* Allen *townſhip, in the county of* Northampton.

XX. *An* ACT *to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth.*

XXI. *An* ACT *to empower the Juſtices of the ſupreme court to ſupply defects in the titles to lands, occaſioned by the loſs of deeds or writings reſpecting the ſame, or where they have been defaced or rendered illegible by time or accident.*

XXII. *An* ACT *to provide for diſcharging the arrears of intereſt due upon the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate, upon which intereſt was heretofore payable.*

XXIII. *An* ACT *for dividing* Mulberry *ward, in the city of* Philadelphia, *into two ſeparate wards.*

XXIV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware* and *Lehigh,* and for the preſervation of the fiſh in the ſaid rivers."

XXV. *An* ACT *for directing the ſale of ſuch of the city lots as remain the property of the ſtate, and for diſpoſing of the houſe and lots in* High-ſtreet, *in the city of* Philadelphia, *late the eſtate of* Joſeph Galloway, *and forfeited to this commonwealth.*

XXVI. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act for levying a "duty on certain enumerated articles, and an impoſt of *five per centum ad* "*valorem* on all goods, wares and merchandize, imported into this ſtate, and "a tax upon real and perſonal property, for the diſcharge of the debts of the "United States of *America,* agreeably to acts of Congreſs therein recited, "and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

XXVII. *An* ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act to encou-"rage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties "on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them."

XXVIII. *An* ACT *for lending the ſum of* three hundred pounds *to* Whitehead Humphreys, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of manufacturing bar-iron into ſteel.*

Which laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

The Houſe then adjourned until *Tueſday,* the Twenty-ſecond day of *Auguſt* next. P. M.

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MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD SESSION
OF THE TENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at *Philadelphia*, on *Tueſday*, the Twenty-ſecond Day of *Auguſt*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſix.

Tueſday, *Auguſt* 22, 1786. P. M.

MR. SPEAKER, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *Auguſt* 23, 1786. P. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

Letters from *Robert Trail* and *Peter Richards,* Eſquires, in excuſe for their non-attendance, were ſeverally read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Loller* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, Auguſt 24, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would, to-morrow morning, lay before the Houſe ſuch buſineſs as they ſhould deem neceſſary.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Smilie*, be a committee, to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may judge neceſſary to be taken up during the preſent ſeſſion.

A petition from *Margaret Smyth*, wife of *Frederick Smyth*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that before her intermarriage with the ſaid *Frederick Smyth*, ſhe was ſeized in fee of certain meſſuages, lands, &c. in the city and county of *Philadelphia*, which were veſted in Truſtees, for ſecuring them to her ſeparate uſe; that ſome time after her marriage the ſaid truſts, with reſpect to a houſe and lot of ground ſituated on the weſt ſide of *Front-ſtreet*, in the ſaid city, were altered, and the meſſuage and lot by indenture veſted in certain other Truſtees, and for certain purpoſes, in the ſame indenture mentioned; that ſhe has a very advantageous offer to purchaſe the ſaid meſſuage and lot of ground, whereby her eſtate therein will be converted into an annuity, payable to herſelf and her huſband during their lives, and the life of the ſurvivor; but that doubts have ariſen whether they have power to make a ſufficient title; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill to authoriſe the ſaid Truſtees, in conjunction with the petitioner and her huſband, to ſell and convey the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Truſtees of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia*, appointed a committee to manage the affairs of the majority of ſaid Church, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled, "*An Act* " *to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian* " *Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the* " *ſame Church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction*;" and ſtating, that a ſuit at law has been inſtituted for determining the controverſy ſubſiſting between the members of ſaid Church; therefore praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance and petition from a number of the inhabitants of the lower end of *York* county, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition laſt ſtated, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation and petition of the people belonging to the aſſociate congregation of *Pequea* and *Brandywine*, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petition, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed this afternoon to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may judge neceſſary for the Houſe to take up this preſent ſeſſion, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church of Mid-* " *dle* Octarara, *in* Bart *townſhip*, *in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Reformed Congregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Baptiſt Church in the townſhip of* New-Britain, *and county of* Bucks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, Auguſt 25, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Margaret Smyth,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

The memorial of the religious ſociety of the people called Quakers, in *Pennſylvania,* read *March* 17th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Loller,* to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* read *March* 17th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Upper-Paxton* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, ſetting forth, that the place appointed by law for holding the general elections is very inconvenient, and praying that they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *Cline*'s mill, on *Wicconiſky* creek, as being the moſt central place.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Weſt-Nantmill, Eaſt* and *Weſt-Caln,* and *Weſt-Bradford, Newlin, Weſt-Whiteland* and *Sadſbury,* in the county of *Cheſter,* were read, praying that the place for holding their general elections may not be removed from the *Pennſylvania Arms,* as propoſed by the bill, entituled "*An Act to amend the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general elections," *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorials of *Thomas Edwards,* Eſquire, and *Henry Dering* and others, read *March* 30th laſt, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the Committee of Accounts, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Scott, James Marſhall* and *David Redwick,* in behalf of the inhabitants of *Waſhington* county, read *April* 3d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Lilly* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* to report thereon.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the counties of *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, of a ſimilar tenor with the preceding petition, were read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they, together with all other petitions of a like nature now on the files of the Houſe, be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* " An Act to " regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds " therein."

On motion made by Mr *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act for confirming and amending the charter of the* " German *reformed congregation reſiding in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the* " *county of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for veſting certain city lots therein mentioned in* " *Truſtees, for a burial-ground for the uſe of the religious ſociety of Free Quakers* " *in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to extend the benefit of an act, entituled* " An " Act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, " and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner " by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate," *to ſuch perſon or perſons whoſe* " *accounts were ſettled before the publication of the ſame act,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the* German *Reformed Con*- " *gregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *Auguſt* 26, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying certain alterations may be made in the bill, entituled " *A Supplement* " *to the Act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections of this com- " wealth, and to prevent frauds therein," previous to its being paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

HEREWITH will be laid before you a number of communications made by Congreſs and particular ſtates ſince your laſt meeting. Theſe we recommend to your conſideration, and eſpecially the requiſition of Congreſs for our quota of the fœderal ſupply for the year 1786. It is to the honor of *Pennſylvania,* that ſhe has hitherto been behind none of the ſtates in ready compliance with ſuch requiſitions, and we have no doubt but you will take care to provide that this part of our character ſhall continue undiminiſhed; the due ſupport of our general government, and the punctual diſcharge of our foreign obligations, being of eſſential importance to the welfare and ſecurity of the whole union.

Some farther progreſs has been made in the negociation with the ſtates of *Delaware* and *Maryland* ſince your laſt ſeſſion—Commiſſioners have been appointed—an interview propoſed—and every inclination to meet this commonwealth on the ground of reciprocal advantage diſcovered.

Having obſerved that the act paſſed on the twenty-ſecond day of *September,* 1785, entituled, "*An Act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who, in* "*the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice* "*of this ſtate or of the United States,*" is liable to many and great abuſes, and that it has, in ſome inſtances fallen within our own knowledge, been made to operate on very improper ſubjects,—we are of opinion that a reviſal thereof ſhould take place as early as poſſible, and ſuch alteration made, as will moſt effectually prevent any miſapplication of the benevolence of government.

Among the papers ſent you are ſome which relate to the people of *Wyoming.*—We expect that theſe ſettlers will ſend agents hither to repreſent to your Honorable Houſe their preſent ſituation.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, Auguſt 25, 1786.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Findley,* to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to extend the benefit of an act, entituled* "An Act to give the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the Comptroller-General of this ſtate," *to ſuch perſon or perſons whoſe accounts were ſettled before the publication of the ſame act.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland.

An ACT *for veſting certain city lots therein mentioned in the Truſtees, for a burial ground for the uſe of the religious ſociety of Free Quakers, in the city of* Philadelphia.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *Auguſt* 28, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The ſeveral petitions from the inhabitants of the counties of *Cheſter*, *Cumberland*, *Weſtmoreland* and *Dauphin*, read *Auguſt* 25th and 26th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wheeler*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Orth*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the letters of the 7th of *May*, 26th of *July*, and 4th of *Auguſt*, from our Delegates in Congreſs; the ſeveral letters from the Secretary of Congreſs, with the acts of Congreſs therein referred to; and the letters from Governors *Bowdoin*, *Caſwell* and *Vandyke*, with the act of the General Aſſembly of *Delaware*, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the papers reſpecting *Wyoming* be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon,

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*confirming and amending the charter of the* German *Reformed Congregation re-* "*ſiding in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate* "*of* Pennſylvania," and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation* "*of* Benſalem, *in the county of* Bucks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation* "*of* Brandywine, *in the townſhip of* Weſt-Nantmill, *in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *Auguſt* 29, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, referring to the petition of *John White*, read *March* 4th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and the prayer thereof be granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers freeholders and inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, referring to the petition of *Abraham Witmer*, read *April* 6th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and the prayer thereof granted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kutz* was read, ſtating certain grievances, and praying the interpoſition of this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Philip Buckius* and *Adam Alberger*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hall* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed in the year 1777 by the Council of Safety to purchaſe proviſions for the ſtate navy, that he hath received at ſeveral times ſince as much as the nominal amount of his expenditures, but no compenſation for his trouble or expences; and praying he may be entitled to a reaſonable allowance for depreciation on the money received, as well as to ſuch further conſideration for his trouble as may be deemed juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Boinod* was read, ſetting forth, that he brought over with him, and afterwards continued to import from *Europe* a quantity of books, chiefly in the *French* language, in hopes of making a profit by the ſale of them; that, contrary to his expectation, he has during a period of three years ſold but a ſmall quantity of them, and the remainder is likely to remain on his hands; and praying leave to bring in a bill, to enable him to diſpoſe of the ſame by way of lottery.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander M'Dowell*, a Deputy Surveyor of one of the diſtricts in the late purchaſe, was read, praying he may be allowed a reaſonable compenſation for running the diviſion line of his diſtrict, which was afterwards altered by an order of the Supreme Executive Council, in order to give two diſtricts to other Surveyors.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Elders of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petitions of the aſſociate congregation of *Pequea*, and of the inhabitants of the lower end of *York* county, read *Auguſt* 24th, and praying that the bill therein referred to may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Corporation, Elders and others, members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition laſt above recited.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Newtown*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, together with a certificate incloſed from the Juſtices of the Peace in and for the ſaid county, praying the courts of juſtice may not be removed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, praying the courts of juſtice may be removed to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Hanna*'s-*Town*, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, praying the courts of juſtice to be holden in and for the ſaid county may be removed to the ſaid town.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Wayne* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, ſetting forth the many loſſes they ſuſtained by the inroads of the ſavages during the late war, and praying they may be exempted from the payment of taxes aſſeſſed during that time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from ſome Miniſters of the Goſpel and ruling Elders, belonging to the Aſſociate Preſbytery of *Pennſylvania*, was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* " Scots *Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid in*- " *ſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction*," may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin* were read, praying certificates for debts due by the public may be received in payment of the purchaſe money and intereſt due on their unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to a reſolution of this Houſe of the 8th of *April* laſt, the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bucks*, in conjunction with a member of this Houſe, made report reſpecting a robbery ſaid to have been committed on *Peter Jedon*, Collector of public taxes, *&c.* which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 25th laſt, on the letter from the honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Clerk informed the Houſe, that he had received returns of the taxable inhabitants reſident in the city of *Philadelphia*, the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Cheſter*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington*, *Fayette*, *Franklin*, *Montgomery* and *Dauphin*, from the Commiſſioners of the reſpective city and counties, made purſuant to the directions of the act, entituled " *An Act to aſcertain the number of taxa*- " *ble inhabitants within the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each of the coun*- " *ties of this commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," paſſed the third day of *March* laſt: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the aforeſaid returns be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Gartner*, Mr. *Carothers*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Edgar*, Mr. *Smilie*, Mr. *A. Smith*, Mr. *Loller* and Mr. *Bradley*, being a member from the city and each county, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom was referred *Auguſt* 28th, the petitions from the counties of *Cheſter*, *Cumberland*, *Weſtmoreland* and *Dauphin*, praying for alterations in the election diſtricts, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for alter*- " *ing and amending an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elec- " tions of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſta- " bliſh and incorporate a Public School at *Germantown*, in the county of *Phi*- " *ladelphia*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday,

Wedneſday, *Auguſt* 30, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders and Churchwardens of the congregation of the *German* Lutheran Church in the borough of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition of *Wynkoop* and *Seimen* and *George Meade* was read, ſetting forth, that in the months of *February* and *April* laſt they entered two foreign veſſels, and gave their bonds to the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia* for the duty of *ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence* per ton; that ſoon after the above entries were made, an act was paſſed, reducing the duty on foreign bottoms to *two ſhillings and ſix-pence* per ton; that they are the only perſons who have been charged with the duty of *ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence* per ton; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of *Harriſburg*, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, ſetting forth, that *John Harris*, of the town aforeſaid, did convey for public uſe his ferry over the river *Suſquehanna*, oppoſite to the ſaid town; that no appropriation of the nett proceeds of the ſaid ferry hath taken place; and praying the ſame may be applied towards the erecting and maintaining an academy in the ſaid town, for the tuition of *Engliſh* and *German* ſcholars.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Giſt*, executor to the eſtate of Colonel *William Harriſon*, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid *Harriſon* ſome years before his death gave bond to a certain *Roſs*, at *Fort-Pitt*, for the payment of a ſum of money, after which the ſaid *Roſs* joined the *Britiſh* forces, leaving ſaid bond in the hands of ſome perſon to be made uſe of at a future day; that ſince the treaty of peace a ſuit has been inſtituted for the payment thereof; and praying he may be allowed to diſcharge the ſame, with the intereſt thereon, in the certificates of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate*,” was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the pains and penalties hereinafter mentioned ſhall be inflicted upon the ſeveral offenders, who ſhall from and after the publication of this act commit, and be legally convicted of any of the offences herein after enumerated and ſpecified, in lieu of the pains and penalties which by law have been heretofore inflicted, that is to ſay; every perſon convicted of robbery, burglary, ſodomy or buggary, or as acceſſary thereof before the fact, ſhall forfeit to the commonwealth all and ſingular the lands and tenements, goods and chattels, whereof he or ſhe was ſeized or poſſeſſed at the time the crime was committed, and be ſentenced to undergo a ſervitude for any term or time, at the diſcretion of the court who paſſes the ſentence, not exceeding fourteen years, in the public gaol or houſe of correction of the county or city in which the offence ſhall have been committed, and kept at ſuch labour, and fed and cloathed in ſuch manner, as is herein after directed.”

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Logan*,

To ſtrike out the words " *for any term or time, at the diſcretion of the court who paſſes the ſentence*," in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words " *of ſeven years*."

And on the queſtion to agree to the ſame, the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Robinſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *John Salter*,
4 *George Logan*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *Arthur Erwin*,
7 *John Smith*,
8 *Robert Ralſton*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Samuel Evans*,
11 *Jonathan Morris*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Adam Hubley*,
14 *Alexander Lowrey*,
15 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
16 *Abraham Scott*,
17 *Philip Gartner*,
18 *Joſeph Lilly*,
19 *Henry Tyſon*,
20 *Adam Eichelberger*,
21 *Frederick Watts*,
22 *John Creigh*,
23 *Abraham Lincoln*,
24 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
25 *John Hughes*,
26 *Samuel Wheeler*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *John Clark*,
6 *Samuel Foulke*,
7 *Joſeph Thomas*,
8 *Robert Smith*,
9 *Robert Whitehill*,
10 *John Carothers*,
11 *Nicholas Lutz*,
12 *Philip Kreemer*,
13 *David Davis*,
14 *Baltzer Gehr*,
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,
16 *Robert Brown*,
17 *John Piper*,
18 *Frederick Antes*,
19 *Samuel Dale*,
20 *William Todd*,
21 *William Findley*,
22 *John M'Dowell*,
23 *James Edgar*,
24 *John Smilie*,
25 *James M'Calmont*,
26 *Abraham Smith*,
27 *John Rhea*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Robert Loller*,
30 *Peter Richards*,
31 *Adam Orth*,
32 *Robert Clark*,
33 *Daniel Bradley*.

So it was determined in the negative.

It was moved by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

To ſtrike out the word " *fourteen*," in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the word " *ten*."

And carried in the affirmative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That every perſon convicted of horſe-ſtealing, or as acceſſary thereof before the fact, ſhall reſtore the horſe, mare or gelding ſtolen, to the owner or owners thereof, and alſo pay the like value to the commonwealth; and moreover undergo a ſervitude for any term not exceeding ſeven years, in the diſcretion of the court before which the conviction ſhall be, and ſhall be confined, kept to hard labour, fed and cloathed, in manner as is herein after directed; every perſon convicted of ſimple larceny, to the value of *twenty ſhillings* and upwards, or as acceſſary thereof before the fact, ſhall reſtore the goods or chattels ſo ſtolen to the right owner or owners thereof, or ſhall pay to him, her or them, the full value thereof, or of ſo much thereof as ſhall not be reſtored; and moreover ſhall forfeit and pay to the commonwealth the like value of the goods and chattels ſtolen; and alſo undergo a ſervitude for any term of years not exceeding ſeven, at the diſcretion of the court before which the conviction ſhall be, and ſhall be confined, hept to hard labour, fed and cloathed, in manner herein after directed."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To ſtrike out, after the words "*moreover undergo a ſervitude*," the words "*for any term not exceeding ſeven years, in the diſcretion of the court before which the conviction ſhall be*," in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the words "*of ſeven years*."

And on the queſtion to agree to the ſame, the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *R. Morris*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *John Salter*,
4 *George Logan*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *Arthur Erwin*,
7 *Robert Ralſton*,
8 *Samuel Evans*,
9 *Townſend Whelen*,

YEAS.

10 *Adam Hubley*,
11 *Alexander Lowrey*,
12 *Abraham Scott*,
13 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
14 *Henry Tyſon*,
15 *Frederick Watts*,
16 *John Creigh*,
17 *John Hughes*,
18 *Samuel Wheeler*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *John Clark*,
6 *Samuel Foulke*,
7 *John Smith*,
8 *Joſeph Thomas*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Jonathan Morris*,
11 *Philip Gartner*,
12 *Joſeph Lilly*,
13 *Adam Eichelberger*,
14 *Robert Whitehill*,
15 *John Carothers*,
16 *Abraham Lincoln*,
17 *Nicholas Lutz*,
18 *Philip Kreemer*,

NAYS.

19 *David Davis*,
20 *Baltzer Gehr*,
21 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
22 *Peter Burkhalter*,
23 *Robert Brown*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *Frederick Antes*,
26 *Samuel Dale*,
27 *William Todd*,
28 *William Findley*,
29 *John M'Dowell*,
30 *James Edgar*,
31 *John Smilie*,
32 *James M'Calmont*,
33 *Abraham Smith*,
34 *John Rhea*,
35 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
36 *Robert Loller*,

NAYS.
37 *Peter Richards,*
38 *Adam Orth,*

NAYS.
39 *Robert Clark,*
40 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Todd,*

To ſtrike out, after the words "*alſo undergo a ſervitude for any term of years not exceeding,*" the word "*ſeven,*" in order to inſert, in lieu thereof, the word "*three.*"

And carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the aforeſaid bill be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Foulke* have leave of abſence for the remainder of the preſent week.

Adjourned until half after nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, Auguſt 31, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 25th, on the petition of *Margaret Smyth,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *Edward Stiles,* poſtponed *April* 7th, and after ſome debate,

It was moved by Mr. *R. Morris,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Evans,*

That the ſaid report be re-committed:

And carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley,*

That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed:

And on the queſtion to agree to the ſame, the votes appearing equal, the Speaker was called upon to give the caſting vote, which he did in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate,*" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half after nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 1, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Jacob Hartzel,* collector of public taxes in *Rockhill* townſhip, *Bucks* county, was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *March* laſt he was robbed, by two footmen to him unknown, of the ſum of *thirty pounds* ſpecie and *one hundred pounds* paper money of the laſt emiſſion, by him collected in the payment of taxes, and praying the ſame may be allowed him in the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 412 freemen of the county of *York* were read, ſetting forth, that to leſſen the number of repreſentatives from what they now are would tend to expedite public buſineſs, as well as to leſſen the expence of government; therefore praying, that in fixing the repreſentation for this commonwealth

wealth for the enſuing ſeptennial period, the number of repreſentatives may be reduced.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for the* "*prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſ-* "*orderly ſports and diſſipation,*" as publiſhed for conſideration, may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Elizabeth Kutz,* read *Auguſt* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Tyſon,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Daniel Boinod,* read *Auguſt* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Smilie,* to report thereon.

The petitions from the inhabitants of *Newtown, Hanna*'s-*town,* and others, inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* for and againſt removing the courts of juſtice in and for the ſaid county, read *Auguſt* 29th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Irvine,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Whelen,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Todd,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Hughes* and Mr. *Edgar,* to report thereon.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* read *Auguſt* 26th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The petition of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter,* read *Auguſt* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Smilie* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Findley* be added to the committee appointed *April* 7th laſt, on the petition of *Abraham Witmer,* in the room of Mr. *Parr* and Mr. *Woods.*

On motion made by Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Findley,* be a committee, to take into conſideration that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *Auguſt* 26th, reſpecting the act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who, in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate or of the United States, and that they be inſtructed to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*amending the penal laws of this ſtate,*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Congregation of* "Brandywine, *in the townſhip of* Weſt-Nantmill, *in the county of* Cheſter," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday,

Saturday, September 2, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Berwick* townſhip, in the county of *York*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petitions from the freemen of the ſaid county read yeſterday.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, referring to their former petitions, and praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county, and that the courts of juſtice may be eſtabliſhed at the town of *Pittſburgh*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr *Carothers* be added to the committee appointed *April* 4th laſt, to bring in a bill to exonerate the owners of lands, the ſettlements of which have been impeded, &c. by the influence of the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, from the payment of taxes, &c. in the room of Mr. *Miller* and Mr. *Woods*.

The report of the committee, read *Auguſt* 29th, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to direct the Comptroller General to iſſue a certificate in favor of *George Schloſſer*, for a ſum of money equal to the depreciation of *one thouſand pounds* (being the ſum he advanced to this ſtate) from the thirteenth day of *June*, 1778, and the depreciation of *one* other *thouſand pounds*, advanced as aforeſaid, from the twentieth day of *June*, 1778, to the twelfth day of *July*, 1779, being the time the money was repaid, the money to be reduced by the continental ſcale.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Smilie*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*,

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* " An " Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent " frauds therein."

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *amending the penal laws of this ſtate*;" whereupon a member preſented to the chair ſeveral additional clauſes to the ſame, which were read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

It was then, on motion made by Mr. *Smilie*, ſeconded by Mr. *Loller*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *confirming and amending the charter of the* German *reformed congregation re-* " *ſiding in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate* " *of* Pennſylvania," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to relieve the owners of unimproved lands from* " *the inconveniencies they are ſubjected to by the preſent mode of enforcing the* " *payment of taxes aſſeſſed thereon*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* "Donegal *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the committee of accounts be inſtructed to examine, count and burn the bills of credit, to the amount of *twenty thouſand pounds*, which were directed to be prepared and cancelled by the Treaſurer of the ſtate for that purpoſe within the year 1786, in purſuance of an act, entituled "*An* "*Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of* "*the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the* "*public debts of this ſtate*," enacted on the 16th day of *March*, 1785.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 4, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A remonſtrance from *John Tyler* was read, referring to his petition read in a late Houſe of Aſſembly, *Auguſt* 1783, and praying this houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from *Samuel Dellap* was read, praying that the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating public vendues*," ſo far as the ſame reſtrains or limits the free ſale of books by auction, may be amended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Moll* was read, ſetting forth, that he was one of thoſe perſons who conſcientiouſly ſcrupled to take the oath of allegiance to this ſtate, and thereby incurred the penalties directed by the act for the further ſecurity of government, paſſed *April* 1ſt, 1778; that by virtue of ſaid act, the Court of Quarter Seſſions for the county of *Berks*, in *Auguſt* term, 1778, ſentenced him to all the penalties in the ſaid act mentioned; that his goods and chattels were all ſold for the uſe of the ſtate; that in the month of *Auguſt* laſt his barn was ſtruck by lightning, and entirely conſumed, together with all therein, which has brought him to the brink of ruin; therefore praying this Houſe to grant relief out of the monies which have ariſen out of the ſale of his confiſcated eſtate and the double taxes he paid during the war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from the inhabitants of the lower or eaſt end of *Newberry* townſhip, and of *Paradiſe* townſhip, in the county of *York*, were ſeverally read, ſetting forth, that they have a long and very tedious road to the place appointed by law for holding their general elections, and praying they may be annexed to the firſt election diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and repreſentation from the truſtees of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in *Philadelphia*, appointed a committee to manage the affairs of a majority of ſaid church, was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of a number of the members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia*, and praying the bill, entituled "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the de-*

" *claration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction*," may not be paſſed into a law, but that the ſame be left to the deciſion of the courts of juſtice; and requeſting to be heard by counſel on the ſaid bill.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice in *Weſtmoreland* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate non-reſident owners of lands within a certain diſtrict, who have been impeded in the ſettlement thereof by the diſturbances of the* Connecticut *claimants at* Wyoming, *from the payment of taxes, until they can be put in poſſeſſion and quieted in the enjoyment of their property*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein;" and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 5, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The report of the committee, read *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the petition of *Margaret Smyth*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſaid *Margaret Smyth* have leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſes mentioned in her petition.

The report of the committee, read *April* 3d laſt, on the petition of *William Tharp*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to direct the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate in favor of *William Tharp*, for the ſum of *eighty-two pounds three ſhillings and ſix-pence*, being the ſum found due to him on the 29th day of *Auguſt*, 1782.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *A. Smith*, be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

Reſolved, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Watts*, be a committee, to contract for and direct the roof of the Committee-room to be repaired, and the upper ſaſhes of the windows of the Aſſembly-room made to let down—and that they be inſtructed to report an eſtimate of the expence of erecting a gallery, for the accommodation of ſuch citizens who may be deſirous of hearing the debates of the General Aſſembly.

The petition of the miniſter, truſtees, elders and churchwardens of the congregation of the *German* Lutheran Church in the borough of *Lancaſter*, read *Auguſt* 30th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt* "*relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far* "*as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign* "*juriſdiction*," was read the third time.

And in debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid recited declaration of truſt, which was made and executed before the late revolution, whereby the United States of *America* became free, ſovereign and independent, ſo far as the ſame ſubordinates or pretends to ſubordinate the church and congregation aforeſaid to the herein before deſcribed Aſſociate Synod of *Edinburgh*, and ſo far as the ſame declares the rights of the members of the ſame church and congregation unto the houſe of worſhip, or other eſtate of the corporation of the truſtees of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*, to depend on the ſame Synod, and ſo far as it ſubjects them, either directly or indirectly, to any foreign juriſdiction whatever, but no further, is null, void and utterly fruſtrate, and the ſame incumbrance on the aforeſaid congregation is hereby, to all intents and purpoſes, diſcharged, ſet aſide and annulled."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*,

To inſert, after the words "*or pretends to ſubordinate*," the words "*the* "*temporalities of*," and after the words "*to any foreign juriſdiction whatever*," the words "*in temporal concerns*."

And on the queſtion—"Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendment?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Schmyſer* and Mr. *Lincoln*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Iſaac Gray*,
4 *John Salter*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *Joſeph Thomas*,
7 *Robert Ralſton*,
8 *Robert Smith*,
9 *Samuel Evans*,
10 *Jonathan Morris*,
11 *Townſend Whelen*,

YEAS.

12 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
13 *Michael Schmyſer*,
14 *Philip Gartner*,
15 *Joſeph Lilly*,
16 *Henry Tyſon*,
17 *Adam Eichelberger*,
18 *John Carothers*,
19 *Abraham Lincoln*,
20 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
21 *Peter Richards*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *John Clark*,
6 *Arthur Erwin*,
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *John Smith*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Alexander Lowrey*,

NAYS.

11 *Abraham Scott*,
12 *David M'Conaughy*,
13 *David M'Clellan*,
14 *Robert Whitehill*,
15 *Frederick Watts*,
16 *John Creigh*,
17 *Nicholas Lutz*,
18 *Henry Spyker*,
19 *Philip Kreemer*,
20 *David Davis*,

NAYS.
21 *Baltzer Gehr,*
22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *Robert Brown,*
24 *John Piper,*
25 *Frederick Antes,*
26 *Samuel Dale,*
27 *William Todd,*
28 *William Findley,*
29 *John Hughes,*
30 *John M'Dowell,*
31 *James Edgar,*

NAYS.
32 *John Smilie,*
33 *James M'Calmont,*
34 *Abraham Smith,*
35 *John Rhea,*
36 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
37 *Robert Loller,*
38 *Adam Orth,*
39 *Robert Clark,*
40 *David Krouſe,*
41 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs:

On the queſtion—"Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being "enacted into a law?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Schmyſer* and Mr. *Carpenter,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *William Will,*
2 *James Irvine,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *John Clark,*
6 *Arthur Erwin,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *John Smith,*
9 *James Moore,*
10 *Jonathan Morris,*
11 *Alexander Lowrey,*
12 *Abraham Scott,*
13 *David M'Conaughy,*
14 *David M'Clellan,*
15 *Robert Whitehill,*
16 *Frederick Watts,*
17 *John Creigh,*
18 *Nicholas Lutz,*
19 *Henry Spyker,*
20 *Philip Kreemer,*
21 *David Davis,*

YEAS.
22 *Baltzer Gehr,*
23 *Peter Burkhalter,*
24 *Robert Brown,*
25 *John Piper,*
26 *Frederick Antes,*
27 *Samuel Dale,*
28 *William Todd,*
29 *William Findley,*
30 *John Hughes,*
31 *John M'Dowell,*
32 *James Edgar,*
33 *John Smilie,*
34 *James M'Calmont,*
35 *Abraham Smith,*
36 *John Rhea,*
37 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
38 *Robert Loller,*
39 *Adam Orth,*
40 *Robert Clark,*
41 *David Krouſe,*
42 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.
1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Iſaac Gray,*
4 *John Salter,*
5 *George Logan,*
6 *Robert Ralſton,*
7 *Robert Smith,*

NAYS.
8 *Townſend Whelen,*
9 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
10 *Michael Schmyſer,*
11 *Philip Gartner,*
12 *Joſeph Lilly,*
13 *Henry Tyſon,*
14 *Adam Eichelberger,*

NAYS.
15 *John Carothers*,
16 *Abraham Lincoln*,

NAYS.
17 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
18 *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *September* 6, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Dunlap* was read, ſtating, that he has a few volumes of the Journals of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth from 28th *November*, 1776, till 2d *October*, 1782, which he will ſell on reaſonable terms.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Willian Bunting*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the militia of the county of *York* was read, ſetting forth, that they have not received any compenſation for their ſervices in the year 1781, in guarding priſoners of war, *&c.* and praying the ſame may be allowed in the payment of their taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Aaron Doane*, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was tried and convicted of outlawry by the Honorable Court of Oyer and Terminer in the month of *September* 1784, and the awful ſentence of death then paſſed upon him, from which he has hitherto been with-held by the gracious interpoſition of the Honorable Supreme Executive Council, who have been pleaſed to grant him a reſpite; that the petitioner is entirely innocent of the offence upon which the outlawry is grounded, as has been proved, ſince his confinement, by the confeſſion of a certain *Robert Johnſton Steele*, taken before his Honor *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſquire, Chief Juſtice; that it was never attempted to be proved againſt him, but was condemned unheard; that he was in a very diſtant part of the ſtate when he was threatened with the outlawry (by advertiſement) where it was impoſſible for him to be appriſed of what ſteps his enemies were taking againſt him, and from whence he did not return until ſome months after the time limited for his appearance; that he has languiſhed in confinement, with heavy irons, for upwards of two years, *&c.* therefore praying the interpoſition of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *M. Braſſine*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ann Grant*, widow, was read, ſetting forth, that her late ſon, *George Grant*, was a Captain in the 9th *Pennſylvania* regiment, commanded by Colonel *Richard Butler*; that he died in that ſervice in the year 1779; and praying that ſhe may be allowed to receive the pay and depreciation of pay which her ſaid ſon would have been entitled to have received, had he lived.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of *John Fitch* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 31ſt, on the petition of *Abraham Whitmer*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 29th, on the returns of taxable inhabitants of this commonwealth, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 25th, on the memorial of the people called Quakers, and on the petition of ſundry inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The ſeveral reports, read *March* 8th and 31ſt laſt, reſpecting the robberies of *Daniel Morton*, *Aaron Phipps*, *John Davis*, *Jacob Worrall*, *David Cloyd*, *Robert Thompſon*, *John Rattew*, *Benjamin Worrall*, *Jonathan Thomas*, *Abner Evans* and *John Brown*, collectors of public monies in the county of *Cheſter*, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Whelen*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Carothers*, to report thereon.

The memorial from *Samuel Caldwell*, read *March* 24th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *A. Erwin* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *September* 2d, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* George Schloſſer," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to*
" *alter and amend the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections
" of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein;" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for incorporating the Baptiſt church in the townſhip of* New-Britain, *and county of* Bucks.

An ACT *to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act to eſtabliſh and in-
" corporate a public ſchool at *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*."

The bill, entituled " *An Act to empower and direct* Ann M'Farren, John
" Agnew *and* William M'Clean, *Adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods*
" *and chattels, rights and credits, which were of* Amos M'Ginley, *deceaſed, to*
" *convey certain lands in* Hamilton-ban *and* Cumberland *townſhips, in* York
" *county, to ſundry perſons, for whom the ſaid* Amos M'Ginley *was a truſtee,*
" *and to veſt the ſame in the grantees,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *September* 7, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING obſerved with the greateſt ſatiſfaction a revival of that ſpirit, and thoſe habits, which have ſo often and highly diſtinguiſhed the Militia of this city and its vicinity, and wiſhing to give them ſuch countenance as will moſt effectually tend to diffuſe them throughout the ſtate, we have, during your laſt receſs, unanimouſly appointed Colonel *Francis Mentges* to the place of Inſpector-General.——Under this appointment it will become his buſineſs to encourage and direct this riſing diſpoſition,—to mark out and eſtabliſh a uniformity of appearance and diſcipline in the ſeveral corps—to examine into the ſtate of arms and accoutrements—and to notice and report all abuſes of ſuch public property as may fall within his care or obſervation.——In executing this neceſſary and important truſt, ſome expence muſt be incurred, and much time given.——It is therefore the object of this meſſage to requeſt, that for *theſe* ſuch compenſation be made, as the Houſe in their wiſdom ſhall think proper to direct.

We take this opportunity of communicating alſo a letter of the twenty-third *ult.* from Preſident *Sullivan*, containing ſeveral papers relating to the capture and condemnation of the Brigantine *Luſanna*, *&c. &c.*——A letter of the twenty-eighth from Mr. *Jay*; and a propoſition from the houſe of *Coxe* and *Frazier*, on the ſubject of arms.

B. FRANKLIN.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

A petition from *John Hoge* and *William Montgomery*, deputy ſurveyors, was read, praying that compenſation may be made them for meaſuring and laying off a certain part of the weſt branch of the river *Suſquehanna*, purſuant to the orders of the Supreme Executive Council.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Summers*, late Lieutenant of the 4th *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that he ſerved as an officer in ſaid regiment from its formation till the end of the war, except the laſt campaign; that loſs of property by the enemy, loſs of health in the ſervice of his country, and the diſtreſſed ſituation of his family, obliged him to retire from the army, and he accordingly reſigned his commiſſion; and praying that he may be allowed half pay, or commutation, in the ſame manner as other officers of the army.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a very conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, praying the Houſe to take into conſideration divers petitions preſented to the late Houſe, and that agreeably to the prayer thereof the courts of juſtice may be fixed in a central part of ſaid county; and that the operation of ſo much of an act, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* "*the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate county*," which empowers the Truſtees therein named to call upon the County Commiſſioners thereof for any ſum not exceeding *one thouſand five hundred pounds*, to defray the expence of the erection of public buildings, may be ſuſpended, until the determination of the Houſe on the ſcite of the courts of juſtice.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, *September* 5th, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe and empower* Frederick Smyth, *of the city* "*of* Philadelphia, *Eſquire, and* Margaret, *his wife, late* Margaret Oſwald, *and* "*the Honorable* John Penn *and* Edward Shippen, *Eſquires, and Doctor* Thomas "Parke, *to ſell and convey a meſſuage and lot of ground therein deſcribed, upon* "*the terms and conditions therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*amending the penal laws of this ſtate*;" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee appointed on the returns of the taxable inhabitants, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the returns of taxable inhabitants made to this Houſe, report——

That they have carefully examined the ſeveral returns, and find, that the city of *Philadelphia* and all the counties in the ſtate have made returns (except the county of *Cumberland*) from which none has yet been received; that the return from the county of *Weſtmoreland* is not certified by the Commiſſioners as the law directs; and that the total of the taxable inhabitants in the county of *Waſhington* is expreſſed in figures.

The committee find, that ſeveral of the counties have returned women as taxable inhabitants, though others have entirely omitted them; and have reaſon to believe that many of the wards of the city of *Philadelphia* have not returned the manufacturers and mechanics, who were not poſſeſſed of taxable property, agreeably to the act of the 16th *March*, 1785.

For the information of the Houſe, the committee have annexed the number of taxable inhabitants in the city of *Philadelphia*, and in the ſeveral counties of the ſtate, except the county of *Cumberland*.

And, in order to comply with the intention of the Houſe, they beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the number of repreſentatives to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth for the next ſeven years, be in the proportion of *one* repreſentative to *one thouſand* taxable inhabitants; and if the number of taxables in the city of *Philadelphia*, or in any county of the ſtate, exceed five hundred, over and above the number of one or more thouſands, that the ſaid city, or any of the counties where ſuch number ſhall be found, be entitled to one repreſentative for ſuch number.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

NUMBER *of the Taxable Inhabitants, taken from the Returns by the Committee.* Cenſus.

	Men.	Women.	
Philadelphia City,	4554		
County,	4281		
Bucks, - -	4170	103	
Cheſter, -	6134	153	
Lancaſter, -	5707	132	
York, - -	6080	174	not included.
Cumberland, -	no return.		
Berks, - -	4676	66	
Northampton, -	3927	40	
Bedford, -	2588	44	
Northumberland,	2102	44	townſhips of *Stoke* and *Shawaneſe* not included.
Weſtmoreland, -	2509	44	not certified by the Commiſſioners, and the number in figures.
Waſhington, -	3896	12	in figures.
Fayette, - -	1991	50	
Franklin, -	2202	35	
Montgomery, -	3725		
Dauphin, - -	2837	44	

[illegible] [illegible] 328. . . . 61379
3939.
65,318

The firſt reſolution ſubmitted by the committee being under conſideration,

It was moved by Mr *Evans*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

That the words " *one thouſand*" be ſtruck out, and that part be at preſent left blank.

And on the queſtion to agree to the ſame,

It was carried in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Lowrey*, and ſeconded by Mr. *M'Conaughy*,

To amend the reſolution, by ſubſtituting the words " *twelve hundred*," in the place of the words " *one thouſand*."

And on the queſtion to agree to the ſame,

It was carried in the negative.

The reſolution was then adopted, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the number of repreſentatives to ſerve in the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth for the next ſeven years, be in the proportion of one repreſentative to one thouſand taxable inhabitants; and if the number of the taxables in the city of *Philadelphia*, or in any county of the ſtate, exceed five hundred, over and above the number of one or more thouſands, that the ſaid city, or any of the counties where ſuch number ſhall be found, be entitled to one repreſentative for ſuch number.

It was then *Ordered*, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Loller*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 8, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Bealer* was read, ſetting forth, that he attended as a witneſs for five days in this city on the conteſted election, held in the year 1784, 1784, in and for the county of *Lancaſter*, and praying he may be allowed a reaſonable compenſation for the ſame; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

A letter from *Joſeph Stiles*, Superintendant of the gun-powder magazine, was read, ſtating, that he labours under many difficulties reſpecting the performance of duty to comply with the act of Aſſembly of the 6th day of *December*, 1783, and praying the ſaid act may be reviſed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee, to report thereon.

A remonſtrance and petition from a number of farmers in the county of *Northampton* was read, praying that a ſtrict œconomy may take place in every department of the ſtate, and that this Houſe, actuated by the ſtricteſt principles of juſtice, will not ſuffer one part of the citizens to be oppreſſed with additional taxes, whilſt another part refuſe or neglect to pay their proportion.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, appointed for the purpoſe *April* 7th laſt, made report, that they received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the following ſums in paper money and treaſury notes, *viz.*

Seventy-one thouſand two hundred and ſeventy-two pounds five ſhillings and five-pence, of the emiſſions of 1775, 1776 and 1777, called reſolve and commonwealth money.

Four hundred and ninety-eight pounds fifteen ſhillings, dated *April* 1780, called State Iſland money.

Two hundred and twenty-eight thouſand two hundred and fifty-ſeven pounds eleven ſhillings and nine-pence, of the emiſſion of *April* 1781, diſtinguiſhed by the name of Shilling money.

Treaſury notes to the amount of *ſixteen thouſand and ſixty-nine dollars,* and 2232 ſheets of ditto not perfected, each ſheet containing *fifty-nine and one fourth dollars,* which ſaid ſeveral ſums they have carefully examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, agreeably to the directions of this Houſe.

They further report,——

That they received from the ſaid Treaſurer 87 ſheets of the late emiſſion (*March* 1785) which were defaced in printing, which they alſo deſtroyed.

The Meſſage from His Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Carothers*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *R. Morris*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas, from the nature of our equal government, the privilege of repreſentation in the General Aſſembly ought to be eſtabliſhed upon uniform principles throughout the ſtate: And whereas it appears that in the liſts of taxables of the city and county of *Philadelphia* now before this Houſe, that the Commiſſioners have omitted to return the names of women of taxable property, and the names of many of the mechanics who are freemen, differing in theſe particulars from returns made by other counties, whereby the ſaid city and county may be deprived of part of their juſt proportion of repreſentation in the General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, Therefore, that the Commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia* be directed to amend their returns of taxables, by ſupplying the names of ſuch women taxables, and of mechanics who are freemen, as may have been omitted in their ſaid returns.

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. *Loller,* ſeconded by Mr. *Smilie,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid motion; and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Hubley,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Nicholas Lutz,*
12 *Henry Spyker,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Baltzer Gehr,*
16 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
17 *Peter Burkhalter,*
18 *Robert Brown,*
19 *John Piper,*

YEAS.

20 *Frederick Antes,*
21 *Samuel Dale,*
22 *William Todd,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John Hughes,*
25 *John M'Dowell,*
26 *James Edgar,*
27 *John Smilie,*
28 *James M'Calmont,*
29 *Abraham Smith,*
30 *John Rhea,*
31 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
32 *Robert Loller,*
33 *Peter Richards,*
34 *Adam Orth,*
35 *Robert Clark,*
36 *David Krouſe,*
37 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Robert Smith,*
13 *Samuel Evans,*
14 *Jonathan Morris,*

NAYS.

15 *Townſend Whelen,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
19 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
20 *Abraham Scott,*
21 *David M'Conaughy,*
22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *Philip Gartner,*
24 *Joſeph Lilly,*
25 *Henry Tyſon,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Adam Eichelberger.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the further conſideration of the motion poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *September* 6th, on the petition of *Abraham Witmer,* was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 8, 1786.

S I R,

INCLOSED is a petition from a number of perſons, ſtyling themſelves late ſettlers at *Wyoming* under legal titles from *Pennſylvania*, but now expelled from their poſſeſſions by perſons claiming under *Connecticut*.

It may alſo be proper to adviſe the Houſe, that the agents of the claimants under *Connecticut* are now here, and wiſh to be heard by the Legiſlature.

I am, S I R,
With great regard,
Your obedient humble Servant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *September* 6th, on the petition of *John Fitch*, was read the ſecond time as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition of *John Fitch* report,——

That they have viewed his model of an invention for moving a boat by means of a ſteam-engine, of which they entertain a favorable opinion.

That the ſaid *Fitch* repreſents to the committee, that he has begun a boat for navigating on the river *Delaware*, but which, from the narrowneſs of his funds, he ſhall not be able to compleat without ſome public aſſiſtance.

The committee, conceiving the deſign, if executed, will be of conſiderable public utility, recommend the following reſolution :

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to direct payment of *John Fitch*'s drafts, to any amount not exceeding in the whole the ſum of *one hundred and fifty pounds*, on proof made to them that the money ſo drawn for has been applied to the purpoſe of compleating his ſteam-boat, they taking his ſecurity for re-payment thereof in twelve months.

And on the queſtion, " *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid report ?*

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An " Act for authoriſing and directing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate " in favor of* William Tharp, *for a ſum of money due to him from this com- " monwealth, in conſequence of an agreement of the Honorable the Supreme Execu- " tive Council*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to exonerate non-reſident owners of lands with- " in a certain diſtrict, who have been impeded in the ſettlement thereof by the diſ- " turbances of the* Connecticut *claimants at* Wyoming, *from the payment of " taxes, until they can be put in poſſeſſion and quieted in the enjoyment of their " property*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*amending the penal laws of this ſtate*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 9, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 133 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Morris*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Thorn*, of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he was induced by a number of the inhabitants reſiding on the river *Delaware* to undertake the clearing a number of rocks in the outer paſſage of *Wells's Falls*, which he effected at a great expence, and thereby greatly improved the navigation of the ſame river, and for which he hath not received a reaſonable compenſation; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, read *March* 31ſt laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Bradley*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Tyler*, read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The memorial and petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Daupkin*, read *September* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *A. Smith* and Mr. *Bradley*, to report thereon.

The petition of the members of the Baptiſt church in *Lower Dublin* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *March* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The report of the committee, read *April* 3d laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Fayette*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *September* 4th, on the petitions for and againſt removing the ſeat of juſtice in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 26th, on the Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled “ *An* “ *Act to appoint a repreſentation for the city and county of* Philadelphia, *and* “ *the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, in proportion to the number of taxa-* “ *ble inhabitants in each, for the enſuing ſeven years* ;” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to authoriſe and empower* Frederick Smyth, *of* “ *the city of* Philadelphia, *Eſquire, and* Margaret, *his wife, late* Margaret “ Oſwald, *and the Honorable* John Penn *and* Edward Shippen, *Eſquires, and* “ *Doctor* Thomas Parke, *to ſell and convey a meſſuage and lot of ground therein* “ *deſcribed, upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned*,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for* “ *amending the penal laws of this ſtate* ;” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o’clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 11, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Franklin* and *John Jenkins*, Agents for the ſettlers at *Wyoming*, was read, together with a petition incloſed, ſtating the numerous ſufferings they have been ſubjected to by their oppoſing claimants, and praying to be heard by this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Rufus King* and *James Monroe*, Eſquires, incloſing a reſolution of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, whereby they are appointed a committee to attend and confer with this Houſe, to explain more fully the embarraſſed ſtate of the public finances, and to recommend the repeal of the clauſe in the act for granting the impoſt, which ſuſpends its operation until all the ſtates ſhall have granted the ſupplementary funds, ſo as to enable the United States in Congreſs aſſembled to carry the ſaid ſyſtem into effect as ſoon as poſſible, was read ; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Smilie*, be a committee, to confer with the ſaid committee of Congreſs.

A petition from a number of inhabitants of *Derry* and *Wayne* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of other inhabitants of the ſaid townſhips, read *Auguſt* 29th.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers merchants of the city of *Philadelphia*, who trade to *Portugal*, was read, praying that ſo much of the act, entituled “ *An Act*

" *to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional* " *duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them,*" as impoſes an additional duty on wines, lemons and raiſins, of the growth of *Portugal*, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Ann Grant*, read *September* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *R. Clark*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying that the title and eſtate in the commons adjacent to the ſaid borough may be veſted in the corporation, or a preference of the purchaſe of the ſame granted them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petition of *Daniel Boinod*, made report; which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 29th laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, and the petition of *Robert Bridges*, and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to diſtribute and annex the juriſdiction of this commonwealth upon the river* " Delaware *below the* Station Point, *and to certain iſlands within the ſame, to* " *the counties of* Northampton, Bucks, Philadelphia and Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* George Schloſſer," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

A member, having obtained leave, read in his place a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to empower the Sheriff of the county of* Cheſter *to remove the priſoners* " *from the old gaol in the town of* Cheſter, *to the new gaol in* Goſhen *town-* " *ſhip, in ſaid county, and to indemnify him for the ſame,*" and upon leave granted, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into Laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for confirming and amending the charter of the* German *reformed congregation in the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the county of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* Benſalem, *in the county of* Bucks.

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* Donegal *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter.

An ACT *to relieve the owners of unimproved lands from the inconveniencies they are ſubjected to by the preſent mode of enforcing the payment of taxes aſſeſſed thereon.*

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday,

Tueſday, September 12, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the freeholders and inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating "the city of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying the ſaid county may not be divided.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion, poſtponed *September* 8th, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas, from the nature of our equal government, the privilege of repreſentation in the General Aſſembly ought to be eſtabliſhed upon uniform principles throughout the ſtate: And whereas it appears that in the liſts of taxables of the city and county of *Philadelphia* now before this Houſe, that the Commiſſioners have omitted to return the names of women of taxable property, and the names of many of the mechanics who are freemen, differing in theſe particulars from returns made by other counties, whereby the ſaid city and county may be deprived of their juſt proportion of repreſentation in General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, therefore, That the Commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia* be directed to amend their returns of taxables, ſupplying the names of ſuch women taxables, and of mechanics who are freemen, as may have been omitted in their ſaid returns.

It was then moved by Mr. *Evans,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe,*

To inſert, after the word "*Philadelphia,*" the words "*and of the county of "Montgomery*;" and to ſtrike out, after the words "*whereby the ſaid city "and,*" the word "*county,*" and in lieu thereof to inſert the word "*counties.*"

On the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid amendment?"

It was carried in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid motion, as amended?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Logan,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *William Robinſon,* jun.
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Robert Smith,*
13 *Samuel Evans,*
14 *Townſend Whelen,*
15 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

16 *Alexander Lowrey,*
17 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
18 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
19 *Abraham Scott,*
20 *David M'Conaughy,*
21 *Michael Schmyſer,*
22 *Philip Gartner,*
23 *Joſeph Lilly,*
24 *Henry Tyſon,*
25 *David M'Clellan,*
26 *Adam Eichelberger,*
27 *Nicholas Lutz,*
28 *Henry Spyker,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *John Hughes,*

YEAS.

31 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
32 *Robert Loller,*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *John Carothers,*
8 *Frederick Watts,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Baltzer Gehr,*
14 *Peter Burkhalter,*
15 *Robert Brown,*

YEAS.

33 *Peter Richards,*
34 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

16 *John Piper,*
17 *Frederick Antes,*
18 *Samuel Dale,*
19 *William Todd,*
20 *William Findley,*
21 *John M'Dowell,*
22 *James Edgar,*
23 *John Smilie,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *John Rhea,*
27 *Adam Orth,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *David Krouſe.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report reſpecting the removal of the ſeat of juſtice in and for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, poſtponed *September* 9th: And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?" *viz.*

Reſolved, That the ſeat of juſtice for the county aforeſaid be and remain at the place eſtabliſhed by the Truſtees appointed for that purpoſe;

It was carried in the negative.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle*, and others, reſiding in the county of *Cumberland*, were read, praying that certificates for debts due by the public may be received in payment of the purchaſe money and intereſt due on their unpatented lands, or in lieu of taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to confer with the committee of Congreſs, reported,

That they had conferred with the committee of Congreſs, and found, that they conceived the act of Congreſs and their appointment intended that they ſhould deliver the communication they had in charge to the Houſe; and therefore

Reſolved, That this Houſe will receive the communication from the committee of Congreſs to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 13, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the United Brethren, reſiding in the county of *Northampton*, in the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, was read, ſetting forth the hardſhip of ſubjecting thoſe who are conſcientiouſly ſcrupulous of bearing arms to penalties in caſe of non-attendance on militia duties, and praying that the militia laws may be reviſed, and ſuch relief granted as may be deemed proper.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Speaker of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the ſtate of *South-Carolina* was read, encloſing a copy of the laws of that ſtate, paſſed during the laſt ſeſſion, and ſuggeſting, that if this mode of communication became general and reciprocal, it would tend in a great meaſure to remove ſuch prejudices which ſome of the ſtates have a long while ago imbibed, and which from a contracted habit they ſtill continue to foſter, to the great detriment of the particular ſtate, and to the conſequent diſadvantage of the union at large.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* purſuant to the directions of this Houſe of the 12th inſtant, made return of the taxable women reſident within the ſaid city and county, which were

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe being informed that the Honorable *Rufus King* and *James Monroe,* Eſquires, were attending at the door,

It was *Ordered,* That two members, *viz.* Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Smilie,* introduce them to the Houſe; and they being accordingly introduced, made the communication with which they were charged from the Honorable the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their reſolution of the 11th day of *Auguſt* laſt.

A Member preſented to the chair a return of the taxable inhabitants reſident in the county of *Cumberland,* from the Commiſſioners of ſaid county, made purſuant to the directions of an act, entituled "*An Act to aſcertain the* "*number of taxable inhabitants of the city of* Philadelphia, *and within each of* "*the counties of this Commonwealth, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" paſſed the third day of *March* laſt.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 14, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 227 freemen of the county of *York* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 1ſt inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants on or near the banks of *Lehigh,* in the county of *Northampton,* were read, ſetting forth, that the road lately laid out from the water gap of *Lehigh* to *Wyoming* is very defective, and ill calculated to anſwer the good purpoſes thereby intended, and ſtating that they have been at great pains and labour to inveſtigate and obtain an accurate ſurvey of the diſtance from the *Union* ſaw-mill to *Muncy* gap, on the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna* river, by the neareſt, beſt and leaſt expenſive route, which they conceive will meet the general approbation of the inhabitants, as well as of the ſettlements on both branches of *Suſquehanna* river, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the ſecond battalion of the Militia of *Dauphin* county was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *Jones*'s town, in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Philip Buckius,* read *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time. And on the queſtion, "Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?"

It was carried in the negative.

The petition of *Aaron Doane*, read *September* 6th, was read the ſecond time. And on the queſtion, " Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?"

It was carried in the negative.

The memorial of the merchants of the city of *Philadelphia*, trading to the kingdom of *Portugal*, read *September* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Franklin* and *John Jenkins*, Agents in behalf of themſelves and others, ſettlers at *Wyoming*, read *September* 11th, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſame, together with the ſeveral petitions relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Smilie*, and that the ſaid committee be authoriſed to call before them the ſaid Agents, and make report to this Houſe.

A member preſented to the chair an abſtract of the accounts of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for the year, ending the 25th day of *April* laſt; whereupon,

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *J. Irvine*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Lutz*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Orth*, be a committee, to viſit the ſaid Hoſpital, and make report.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the letter from *Joſeph Stiles*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for eſtabliſhing a ferry and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek,* " *in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *altering and amending an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 15, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Weſt-Nantmill*, *Eaſt* and *Weſt-Caln*, *Weſt-Bradford*, *Newlin*, *Weſt-Whiteland* and *Sadſbury*, in the county of *Cheſter*, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *Auguſt* 25th laſt, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of *Frankſtown* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, ſetting forth, that they have ſettled upon and improved lands, the property of divers non-reſident land-holders, without having derived any advantage therefrom adequate to the expence of clearing and improving the ſame, and praying ſome time may be given them to comply with the terms of their landlords, as well as with the payment of their taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* read *September* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *J. Clark,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Loller,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *R. Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed on the ſeveral papers relative to the miſſion of the committee of Congreſs, and that the committee be authoriſed to confer with the ſaid committee of Congreſs, if they deem it neceſſary, and make report thereon to this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. Morris,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Work,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Smilie,* be the committee for the above purpoſes.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the United Epiſcopal churches* "*of* Trinity *church, in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All-Saints *church, in* Lower-"Dublin *townſhip, in* Philadelphia *county, and* St. Thomas's *church, in* White-"marſh *townſhip, in* Montgomery *county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to appoint a repreſentation for the city of* Phi-"ladelphia, *and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, in proportion to the* "*number of taxable inhabitants in each, for the enſuing ſeven years,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*altering and amending an act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general "elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Whereas by the thirty-fifth ſection of the late election law it is enacted, that the Judges, Inſpectors and Clerks, whilſt employed in the duties required of them by this act, ſhall reſpectively receive for their expences and ſervices, the ſum of *eight ſhillings and four-pence per diem:*

"And whereas ſome of the frontier counties of this ſtate, by the diſtreſſes of the late war, are not able to pay the ſame:

"Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That ſo far as the late election law reſpects the paying of the Judges, Inſpectors and Clerks of elections for *Waſhington* county, is henceforth repealed, annulled and made void."

On the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Edgar,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Jonathan Morris,*
2 *Michael Schmyſer,*
3 *Philip Gartner,*

YEAS.

4 *Adam Eichelberger,*
5 *John M'Dowell,*
6 *James Edgar.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*

NAYS.

3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*

NAYS.

5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *John Clark,*
10 *Arthur Erwin,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *John Smith,*
13 *Joſeph Thomas,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *Robert Smith,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *Abraham Scott,*
24 *David M'Conaughy,*
25 *Joſeph Lilly,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Robert Whitehill,*
28 *John Carothers,*
29 *John Creigh,*

NAYS.

30 *Abraham Lincoln,*
31 *Nicholas Lutz,*
32 *Henry Spyker,*
33 *Philip Kreemer,*
34 *David Davis,*
35 *Baltzer Gehr,*
36 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
37 *Peter Burkhalter,*
38 *Robert Brown,*
39 *Frederick Antes,*
40 *Samuel Dale,*
41 *William Todd,*
42 *William Findley,*
43 *John Hughes,*
44 *John Smilie,*
45 *James M'Calmont,*
46 *Abraham Smith,*
47 *John Rhea,*
48 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
49 *Robert Loller,*
50 *Peter Richards,*
51 *Adam Orth,*
52 *Robert Clark,*
53 *David Krouſe,*
54 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Sheriff of the county of* Cheſter "*to remove the priſoners from the old gaol in the borough of* Cheſter, *to the new* "*gaol in* Goſhen *townſhip, in ſaid county, and to indemnify him for the ſame,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 16, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 15, 1786.

SIR,

INCLOSED is a letter from the Board of Treaſury, with an act of Congreſs of the fifth inſtant. You will ſee the neceſſity of appointing ſome perſon to adjuſt this acccount, if ſuch appointment has not already taken place.

I am, S I R,
With great regard,
Your obedient humble Servant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

The Honorable the SPEAKER
of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers incloſed were alſo read.

The letter from *John Dunlap*, read *September* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Edgar* and Mr. *Smilie*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Smilie* be added to the committee appointed *April* 7th laſt, on the letter from *Francis Bailey*, in the room of Mr. *Trail.*

The memorial of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, read *March* 16th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Carothers* and Mr. *Loller*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 14th, on the memorial of the merchants of *Philadelphia* trading to the kingdom of *Portugal*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 10th laſt, on the petition of the congregation of Seventh-day Baptiſts in *Cheſter* county, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*altering and amending an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elec-" tions of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 18, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 192 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Phila-" delphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Hall*, read *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *R. Clark*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petition of *Elizabeth Kutz*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *September* 11th, on the petition of *Daniel Boinod,* was read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion—" Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution ?" *viz.*

Reſolved, That *Daniel Boinod* have leave to bring in a bill, to enable him to diſpoſe of his books on hand by the way of an equitable lottery.

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, read *September* 14th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions and memorials of a large and reſpectable body (eight out of nine townſhips) of the inhabitants of *Dauphin* county, ſetting forth the very great diſſatisfaction and uneaſineſs which generally prevails among them, occaſioned by the operations of an act, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of the county of* Lancaſter *into a ſeparate* " *county,*" in as much as it eſtabliſhes the courts of judicature at or near *Harris*'s *Ferry,* on the verge of ſaid county, by which means much the greater part of the good people are removed at a much greater diſtance from the ſeat of juſtice, than they originally were before the ſaid act was paſſed, and ſuggeſting the propriety of removing the ſame to a more ſuitable and convenient place, for the accommodation of the ſaid inhabitants, and likewiſe praying that the Houſe will be pleaſed to ſuſpend the operation of ſo much of the act aforeſaid, as empowers the Truſtees therein named to erect a court-houſe and gaol, and to call on the County Commiſſioners for ſo much money as they ſhall judge neceſſary for building and finiſhing the ſame, until the event of their petitions relating to ſuch removal be determined:

And it appearing to your committee that the grievances above ſtated are juſtly founded, and that it is reaſonable and juſt the ſame ſhould be redreſſed: Therefore, in order to reſtore tranquility in ſaid county, and to eaſe the minds of the good citizens thereof, beg leave to offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, declaring that the part of the act, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of the county of* Lan-" caſter *into a ſeparate county,*" which empowers the Truſtees therein named to take aſſurances of a lot or piece of ground, as ſhall be approved of by them, and to erect a court-houſe and priſon thereupon, in truſt and for the uſe of the inhabitants of the ſaid county of *Dauphin,* and likewiſe that part thereof which empowers the ſaid Truſtees to call on and demand of the County Commiſſioners ſo much money as the ſaid Truſtees, or any three of them, ſhall judge neceſſary for building and finiſhing the court-houſe and priſon aforeſaid, to be ſuſpended to all intents and purpoſes; and that the ſuſpending act, ſo paſſed, ſhall continue in force until the petitioners prayers and demands relating to ſuch removal be determined by a future Houſe of Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame ?" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *R. Clark,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *Arthur Erwin,*
4 *Samuel Foulke,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

7 *Robert Smith,*
8 *Samuel Evans,*
9 *Adam Hubley,*
10 *Alexander Lowrey,*
11 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
12 *Michael Schmyſer,*

YEAS.

13 *Adam Eichelberger,*
14 *Nicholas Lutz,*
15 *Henry Spyker,*
16 *Philip Kreemer,*
17 *Baltzer Gehr,*
18 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
19 *John Piper,*
20 *Samuel Dale,*
21 *John Hughes,*
22 *John M'Dowell,*
23 *James Edgar,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *Peter Richards,*
27 *Adam Orth,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *David Krouſe,*
30 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Clark,*
7 *James Moore,*
8 *Joſeph Work,*
9 *Abraham Scott,*
10 *David M'Conaughy,*
11 *Joſeph Lilly,*
12 *David M'Clellan,*
13 *Robert Whitehill,*
14 *John Carothers,*
15 *Frederick Watts,*
16 *John Creigh,*
17 *Abraham Lincoln,*
18 *David Davis,*
19 *Peter Burkhalter,*
20 *Robert Brown,*
21 *Frederick Antes,*
22 *William Todd,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *John Smilie,*
25 *John Rhea.*

So it was determined in the affirmative: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the members from the county of *Dauphin* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing a ferry and building a bridge* "*acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for authoriſing and directing the Comptroller-* "*General to iſſue a certificate in favor of* William Tharp, *for a ſum of money* "*due to him from this commonwealth, in conſequence of an agreement of the Ho-* "*norable the Supreme Executive Council,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to diſtribute and annex the juriſdiction of this* "*commonwealth upon the river* Delaware *below the Station Point, and to certain* "*Iſlands within the ſame, to the counties of* Northampton, Bucks, Philadel- "phia *and* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Comptroller-General, under* "*certain regulations, to renew the depreciation certificates granted by this ſtate,* "*which have been or may be loſt or deſtroyed by accident,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 19, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition of the Juſtices of the Peace in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the bill, entituled “*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *September* 16th, on the memorial of the merchants of the city of *Philadelphia* trading to *Portugal,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the merchants of the city of *Philadelphia* trading to the kingdom of *Portugal,* beg leave to report,——

That from the information they have been able to obtain, it appears that the additional duty impoſed by the act, entituled “*An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them,*” paſſed the twentieth day of *September,* 1785, has not had the effect intended by the legiſlature, nor in their opinion can it have that effect while the regulation is confined to this ſtate.

That the duty, in its preſent form, either prevents the importation of the articles which are the objects of the law, or the evaſion of not only the duties it impoſes, but of thoſe which other goods of like kind are ſubject to, which of courſe operates to the prejudice of the revenue.

The committee ſee but one poſſible objection to the repealing of ſo much of the act aforeſaid as impoſes an additional duty on wines and fruit, the growth of the kingdom of *Portugal,* the neceſſity of making ſeveral alterations in our preſent impoſt law, and that there ſeems a propriety in taking the whole up together. Submitting theſe conſiderations to the wiſdom of the Houſe, the committee beg leave to offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for repealing ſo much of the act aforeſaid as impoſes an additional duty upon all wines and fruit, the growth or produce of the kingdom of *Portugal.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Loller,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An Act to ſuſpend the force and operation of part of an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “An Act for erecting part of the county of *Lancaſter* into a ſeparate county,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to appoint a repreſentation for the city of* Philadelphia, *and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants in each, for the enſuing ſeven years,*” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to exonerate* Jacob Kintzer, *Collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Huntington, *in the county of* York, Jacob Van Foſſen, *Collector of public taxes for the townſhip of* Worceſter, *in the county of* Montgomery; James Snodgraſs, *Collector of military fines, in* New-Britain *townſhip,* Bucks *county; and* Jacob Fautz, *Collector of public taxes in* Straſburg *townſhip,* Lancaſter *county, from the payment of certain ſums of public money, of which they were reſpectively robbed;*" and in debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid *Jacob Kintzer, Jacob Van Foſſen, James Snodgraſs* and *Jacob Fautz,* be and they are hereby acquitted, exonerated and diſcharged, of and from the payment of the ſums of money of which they were reſpectively robbed as aforeſaid.

It was moved by Mr. *Hubley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Loller,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the aforeſaid clauſe, in order to ſubſtitute the following, in lieu thereof, *viz.*

Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That *Jacob Kintzer,* late Collector of general ſtate taxes in the townſhip of *Huntington,* in the county of *York,* as to the ſum of *Fourteen pounds one ſhilling* and *eight-pence* in ſpecie, and of the ſum of *five pounds* of the bills of credit of this ſtate, dated the day of *April, Anno Domini* 1781; that *Jacob Van Foſſen,* late Collector of general ſtate taxes in the townſhip of *Worceſter,* and in the county of *Montgomery,* as to the ſum of *one hundred and nine pounds* in ſpecie; that *Jacob Fautz,* of the townſhip of *Straſburg,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* as to the ſum of *ninety-ſix pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence* of the bills of credit of this ſtate, dated the day of *April, Anno Domini* 1781; and that *James Snodgraſs,* late Collector of militia fines in the townſhip of *New-Britain,* in the county of *Bucks,* as to the ſum of *three pounds fifteen ſhillings* ſpecie, and *thirty-two pounds ten ſhillings* ſtate money, ſhall be and they reſpectively are acquitted, diſcharged and for ever exonerated; the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly by virtue of which they ſeverally collected and received the ſame notwithſtanding.

And on the queſtion—" Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement for the aforeſaid purpoſe ?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Loller,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Joſeph Thomas,*
4 *James Moore,*
5 *Robert Smith,*
6 *Townſend Whelen,*
7 *Adam Hubley,*
8 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
9 *David M'Conaughy,*
10 *Michael Schmyſer,*
11 *Robert Whitehill,*
12 *John Carothers,*
13 *Abraham Lincoln,*
14 *Nicholas Lutz,*
15 *Philip Kreemer,*

YEAS.

16 *John Piper,*
17 *Frederick Antes,*
18 *William Todd,*
19 *William Findley,*
20 *John Hughes,*
21 *John M'Dowell,*
22 *James Edgar,*
23 *John Smilie,*
24 *James M'Calmont,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Robert Loller,*
28 *Peter Richards,*
29 *Adam Orth.*

NAYS.
1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *John Clark,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *Samuel Evans,*
12 *Jonathan Morris,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Abraham Scott,*
15 *Philip Gartner,*
16 *Joſeph Lilly,*

NAYS.
17 *David M'Clellan,*
18 *Adam Eichelberger,*
19 *Frederick Watts,*
20 *John Creigh,*
21 *Henry Spyker,*
22 *David Davis,*
23 *Baltzer Gehr,*
24 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
25 *Peter Burkhalter,*
26 *Robert Brown,*
27 *Samuel Dale,*
28 *John Rhea,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *David Krouſe,*
31 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative. Whereupon

On motion, *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Carothers,* be a committee to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary for the Houſe to take up the preſent ſeſſion.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church of* " Silver Spring, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for altering and amending an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to " prevent frauds therein," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That three hundred copies of the aforeſaid law be printed, and diſtributed for the information of the citizens of this ſtate.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 20, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to examine the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to be taken up this preſent ſeſſion, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 15th, to confer with the Honorable Mr. *King* and Mr. *Munroe,* Delegates in Congreſs, as alſo on the ſeveral papers relative to their miſſion, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and protect " the manufactures of this ſtate, by levying additional duties on the importa-

“ tion of certain manufactures which interfere with them,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to ſuſpend the force and operation of that part* “ *of an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “ An Act for erecting part of the “ county of *Lancaſter* into a ſeparate county,” was read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Orth* and Mr. *Bradley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Joſeph Thomas,*
3 *Robert Smith,*
4 *Jonathan Morris,*
5 *Adam Hubley,*
6 *Alexander Lowrey,*
7 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
8 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
9 *Michael Schmyſer,*
10 *Adam Eichelberger,*
11 *John Carothers,*
12 *Nicholas Lutz,*
13 *Henry Spyker,*
14 *Philip Kreemer,*

YEAS.

15 *Baltzer Gehr,*
16 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
17 *John Piper,*
18 *Samuel Dale,*
19 *James Edgar,*
20 *James M‘Calmont,*
21 *Abraham Smith,*
22 *Robert Loller,*
23 *Peter Richards,*
24 *Adam Orth,*
25 *Robert Clark,*
26 *David Krouſe,*
27 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *John Clark,*
10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Joſeph Work,*
14 *Abraham Scott,*
15 *David M‘Conaughy,*

NAYS.

16 *Philip Gartner,*
17 *Joſeph Lilly,*
18 *David M‘Clellan,*
19 *Robert Whitehill,*
20 *Frederick Watts,*
21 *John Creigh,*
22 *Abraham Lincoln,*
23 *David Davis,*
24 *Peter Burkhalter,*
25 *Robert Brown,*
26 *Frederick Antes,*
27 *John Hughes,*
28 *John M‘Dowell,*
29 *John Smilie,*
30 *John Rhea.*

So it was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to exonerate non-reſident owners of lands within* “ *a certain diſtrict, who have been impeded in the ſettlement thereof by the diſturbances of the* Connecticut *Claimants at* Wyoming, *from the payment of taxes,* “ *until they can be put in poſſeſſion and quieted in the enjoyment of their property,*” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* George Schloſſer," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 21, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from 105 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* "Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Devereux Smith,* read *March* 9th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Watts,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Edgar,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 14th, to viſit the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, made report in the words following, *viz.*

The committee appointed to viſit the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital beg leave to report——

That on *Tueſday* laſt they viſited the ſaid Hoſpital, and, on examination, had the ſatisfaction to find the ſeveral wards or apartments for the ſick, *&c.* were kept clean and comfortable, the patients appear to be well attended and provided for, and the œconomy of the Houſe ſuch as merits approbation.—On comparing the accounts of ſeveral years, your committee were happy to find that the capital ſtock of ſaid Hoſpital has increaſed within the laſt three years, owing to the contributions of charitable and well diſpoſed perſons; but they are ſorry to add, that the funds are yet too ſmall to enable the Managers to render the inſtitution ſo extenſively beneficial as it formerly has been.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 25th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee poſtponed yeſterday, and unanimouſly adopted the ſame as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to confer with the Honorable Mr. *King* and Mr. *Munroe,* Delegates in Congreſs, and to whom were referred the ſeveral papers relative to their miſſion, beg leave to report——

That, agreeably to the orders of the Houſe, they have conferred with the abovementioned Delegates on the ſubject of the reſolution of the Honorable the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, directing "that an application be "made to the legiſlature of *Pennſylvania,* to explain to them more fully the "embarraſſed ſtate of the public finances, and to recommend it to the ſaid "ſtate to repeal the clauſe in her act granting an impoſt, which ſuſpends its "operation until all the ſtates ſhall have granted the ſupplementary funds, ſo

“ as to enable, on her part, the United States in Congreſs aſſembled to carry “ the ſaid ſyſtem into effect as ſoon as poſſible.”

That your committee have paid ſerious attention to the important facts which have been ſtated by the Honorable Delegates, and to the reaſons and arguments which they have advanced, as well as to the meaſure recommended by the United States, and after mature conſideration they are unanimouſly of opinion, that it is neceſſary to the welfare of theſe ſtates, that ſpeedy and effectual meaſures be taken for enabling the fœderal government to perform their engagements.

That an immediate compliance with the recommendation abovementioned would involve a breach of the faith of this ſtate, pledged to the public creditors, citizens thereof, unleſs at the ſame time ſome further and other funds were provided for payment of the intereſt due, and which ſhall become due to them.

That it is impracticable for this Houſe, now ſo near the period of its diſſolution, to provide funds, or make any arrangements which may be neceſſary in order to comply with the recommendation of Congreſs.

Your committee therefore propoſe the following reſolution :

Reſolved, That it be, and it hereby is warmly and earneſtly recommended to the next Houſe of Aſſembly, to pay an early attention to the abovementioned reſolution of Congreſs, and to take ſuch meaſures as ſhall to them in their wiſdom ſeem moſt expedient for ſupporting the faith of this commonwealth, and enabling the United States in Congreſs to perform their engagements.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for* “ *the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain* “ *diſorderly ſports and diſſipation.*” Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

To inſert the following additional paragraph, *viz.*

Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons whatſoever ſhall erect, build, or cauſe to be erected or built, any playhouſe, theatre, ſtage or ſcaffold, for acting, ſhewing or exhibiting any tragedy, comedy, tragi-comedy, farce, interlude, pantomine or other play, or any ſcene or part of any play whatſoever, or who ſhall act, ſhew or exhibit any ſuch play, or any part of a play, or ſhall be in any wiſe concerned or employed therein, or in ſelling any ticket or tickets for that purpoſe, in any place within this commonwealth, and be thereof legally convicted in the court of Quarter Seſſions of the peace, or of Oyer and Terminer and general goal delivery of the city or county wherein the offence ſhall be committed, ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of *two hundred pounds* for every ſuch offence ; and every ſuch perſon, after conviction as aforeſaid, ſhall be holden in recognizance, with two ſufficient ſureties, to be of his or her good behaviour ; and if ſuch perſon offend again in like manner, ſuch offence ſhall incur the forfeiture of ſuch recognizance.

And on the queſtion,—“ Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid additional paragraph ?”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *J. Morris* and Mr. *Smilie*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *James Irvine*,
3 *Iſaac Gray*,

YEAS.

4 *John Salter*,
5 *George Logan*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.

YEAS.

7 *John Smith,*
8 *Joſeph Thomas,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Jonathan Morris,*
12 *David M'Conaughy,*
13 *David M'Clellan,*
14 *Robert Whitehill,*
15 *Frederick Watts,*
16 *John Carothers,*
17 *John Creigh,*
18 *Abraham Lincoln,*
19 *Henry Spyker,*
20 *David Davis,*
21 *Robert Brown,*

YEAS.

22 *John Piper,*
23 *Frederick Antes,*
24 *Samuel Dale,*
25 *William Findley,*
26 *John M'Dowell,*
27 *James Edgar,*
28 *John Smilie,*
29 *James M'Calmont,*
30 *Abraham Smith,*
31 *John Rhea,*
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
33 *Robert Loller,*
34 *Adam Orth,*
35 *Robert Clark,*
36 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *George Clymer,*
3 *John Clark,*
4 *Arthur Erwin,*
5 *James Moore,*
6 *Samuel Evans,*
7 *Townſend Whelen,*
8 *Adam Hubley,*
9 *Alexander Lowrey,*
10 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
11 *Joſeph Work,*
12 *Abraham Scott,*

NAYS.

13 *Michael Schmyſer,*
14 *Joſeph Lilly,*
15 *Adam Eichelberger,*
16 *Nicholas Lutz,*
17 *Philip Kreemer,*
18 *Baltzer Gehr,*
19 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
20 *Peter Burkhalter,*
21 *William Todd,*
22 *John Hughes,*
23 *David Krouſe.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for the relief of* George Schloſſer.

An ACT *to empower and direct* Ann M'Farren, John Agnew *and* William M'Clean, *adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of* Amos M'Ginley, *deceaſed, to convey certain lands in* Hamilton-ban *and* Cumberland *townſhips, in* York *county, to ſundry perſons for whom the ſaid* Amos M'Ginley *was a Truſtee, and to veſt the ſame in the grantees.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 22, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 26 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was read, praying the bill, entituled " *An Act for incorporating the city of* Phi-

" ladelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom were referred, *September* 14th, the petition of *John Franklin* and *John Jenkins,* and the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 18th, on the petition of *John Hall,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to authoriſe and empower* Frederick Smyth, *of* " *the city of* Philadelphia, *Eſquire, and* Margaret, *his wife, late* Margaret Oſ- " wald, *and the Honorable* John Penn *and* Edward Shippen, *Eſquires,* and *Dr.* " Thomas Parke, *to ſell and convey a meſſuage and lot of ground therein de-* " *ſcribed, upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned,*" was read the third time:

And on the queſtion,—" Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Loller,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *William Robinſon,* jun.
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Samuel Evans,*
12 *Jonathan Morris,*
13 *Townſend Whelen,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*
19 *Abraham Scott,*
20 *David M'Conaughy,*
21 *Michael Schmyſer,*
22 *Joſeph Lilly,*
23 *David M'Clellan,*
24 *Frederick Watts,*
25 *Nicholas Lutz,*
26 *Philip Kreemer,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *William Todd,*
29 *John Hughes,*
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *David Krouſe,*
33 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *Arthur Erwin,*
2 *John Smith,*
3 *Joſeph Thomas,*
4 *James Moore,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *John Carothers,*
7 *John Creigh,*
8 *Abraham Lincoln,*
9 *Henry Spyker,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Baltzer Gehr,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *Robert Brown,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *John M'Dowell,*
19 *James Edgar,*
20 *John Smilie,*
21 *James M'Calmont,*
22 *Abraham Smith,*
23 *John Rhea,*
24 *Robert Loller,*
25 *Peter Richards,*
26 *Robert Clark.*

So it was determined in the affirmative. Whereupon, In debating the following clauſe, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid *Frederick Smyth* and *Margaret,* his wife, and the ſaid *John Penn, Edward Shippen* and *Thomas Parke,* or any two of them, or the ſurvivor of them, forthwith after the paſſing of this act, by any deed or writing under their hands and ſeals to be executed, proved or acknowledged, and recorded in the manner and form that deeds for the conveyance of real eſtate are by law required to be executed, proved or acknowledged, and recorded, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey and aſſure to any perſon or perſons whatſoever, willing to purchaſe the ſame, and to his, her or their heirs or aſſigns for ever, all that the aforeſaid meſſuage and lot of ground herein above deſcribed, with all and every the appurtenances thereto belonging, for ſuch ſum or ſums of money in hand to be paid, or to be ſecured to be paid, and ſuch rent or rents to be charged thereon and iſſue thereout, payable to the ſaid *Frederick Smyth* and *Margaret,* his wife, and their aſſigns, during their lives, and the life of the ſurvivor of them, as they the ſaid *Frederick Smyth* and *Margaret,* his wife, and the ſaid Truſtees, or any two of them, or the ſurvivor of them, ſhall think reaſonable.

It was moved by Mr. *Loller,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,* to ſtrike out the words, "*or any two of them, or the ſurvivor of them.*"

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *M'Dowell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *John Smith,*
4 *Joſeph Thomas,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *John Carothers,*
7 *John Creigh,*
8 *Abraham Lincoln,*
9 *Nicholas Lutz,*
10 *Henry Spyker,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Baltzer Gehr,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *Robert Brown,*
15 *John Piper,*

YEAS.

16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *Samuel Dale,*
18 *William Findley,*
19 *John M'Dowell,*
20 *James Edgar,*
21 *John Smilie,*
22 *James M'Calmont,*
23 *Abraham Smith,*
24 *John Rhea,*
25 *Robert Loller,*
26 *Peter Richards,*
27 *Adam Orth,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *David Krouſe,*
30 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Iſaac Gray,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *John Clark,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*

NAYS.

10 *James Moore,*
11 *Robert Smith,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Jonathan Morris,*
14 *Townſend Whelen,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*

NAYS.

19 *Abraham Scott*,
20 *David M'Conaughy*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *Joſeph Lilly*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Frederick Watts*,

NAYS.

25 *Philip Kreemer*,
26 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
27 *William Todd*,
28 *John Hughes*,
29 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

DISSENTIENT.

1ſt. BECAUSE we conceive that the interference of the legiſlature in the diſpoſition of private property is at all times dangerous, and ought to be allowed in caſes of abſolute neceſſity only, and then with the utmoſt deliberation and caution. That even where ſuch interference may appear neceſſary, nothing ſhould be done without the moſt full inveſtigation of all the facts and circumſtances, nor " without the conſent expreſly given of " all the parties in being, and capable of conſent, that have the remoteſt intereſt in the matter, unleſs ſuch conſent ſhall appear to be perverſely and " without any reaſon withheld ;" and further, " that an equivalent in money, " or other eſtate, ought to be ſettled upon ſuch perſons as are not of capacity " to act for themſelves, and even upon ſuch as are not yet in being, who are " to be concluded by an act of this kind." In this opinion we are ſupported by the authority of the celebrated Judge *Blackſtone*, by the experience of the wiſeſt and beſt men in that country from which we profeſs to derive our principles of juriſprudence, and by the obvious dictates of reaſon and juſtice.

2dly. Becauſe we apprehend, that of all caſes, that of the legiſlature exerting the power thereof to ſet aſide marriage ſettlements, to ſtrip a married woman, her family and relations, of her eſtate, which had been carefully ſecured to them before marriage, is the moſt unneceſſary, the moſt cruel and dangerous. Before marriage, a woman is capable of exerciſing her own judgment, of weighing and conſidering the advice of her friends. After marriage ſhe is not, and we fear that the preſent act of the legiſlature will eſtabliſh a precedent, by which men of little property, or of extravagant lives, when they happen to marry women poſſeſſed of property, will be encouraged to ſettle ſuch property upon their wives before marriage, in the expectation of procuring an act of Aſſembly to make void ſuch ſettlements after marriage ; and we know that the conſent of the wives in ſuch caſes will always be too eaſily obtained by the huſbands. The conſequence of ſuch proceedings are too obvious to need illuſtration. We ought, as faithful guardians of the public, rather to protect perſons in this helpleſs ſituation, even againſt themſelves, than to exert the ſovereign power of the ſtate in ſuch a manner as to involve them in miſery and diſtreſs.

3dly. Becauſe we conſider it as improper to hurry through a bill of this nature, without any neceſſity, at the ſame ſeſſion in which it has originated. We conceive that principles of very extenſive influence on the property of the citizens of this ſtate are involved in this queſtion, and therefore that greater time for deliberation ought to have been allowed.

Robert Whitehill,
John Carothers,
Abraham Smith,
John Rhea,
Baltzer Gehr,
Henry Spyker.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the city of* Philadelphia, and "*for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time.

It was then moved by Mr. *R. Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill.

And on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Fitzſimons*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *James Irvine*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Iſaac Gray*,
6 *George Logan*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *Robert Ralſton*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Samuel Evans*,
11 *Jonathan Morris*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Adam Hubley*,
14 *Alexander Lowrey*,
15 *Samuel J. Atlee*,
16 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
17 *Joſeph Work*,
18 *Abraham Scott*,
19 *David M'Conaughy*,
20 *Michael Schmyſer*,
21 *Joſeph Lilly*,
22 *David M'Clellan*,
23 *Nicholas Lutz*,
24 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
25 *John Hughes*.

NAYS.

1 *John Clark*,
2 *Arthur Erwin*,
3 *John Smith*,
4 *Joſeph Thomas*,
5 *Robert Smith*,
6 *Robert Whitehill*,
7 *John Carothers*,
8 *Frederick Watts*,
9 *John Creigh*,
10 *Abraham Lincoln*,
11 *Henry Spyker*,
12 *Philip Kreemer*,
13 *David Davis*,
14 *Baltzer Gehr*,
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,
16 *Robert Brown*,
17 *John Piper*,
18 *Frederick Antes*,
19 *Samuel Dale*,
20 *William Todd*,
21 *William Findley*,
22 *John M'Dowell*,
23 *James Edgar*,
24 *John Smilie*,
25 *James M'Calmont*,
26 *Abraham Smith*,
27 *John Rhea*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Robert Loller*,
30 *Peter Richards*,
31 *Adam Orth*,
32 *Robert Clark*,
33 *David Krouſe*,
34 *Daniel Bradley*.

So it was determined in the negative. Whereupon,

In debating the firſt enacting paragraph, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the freeholders and inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, as the ſame extends and is laid out between the rivers *Delaware* and *Schuylkill*, be, and they are hereby conſtituted a corporation and body politic, to all intents and purpoſes, by the name and ſtile of "The Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the city of *Philadelphia*."

On the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 23, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* "*city of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to be taken up, made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the United Brethren reſiding in *Warwick* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of the United Brethren reſiding in *Bethlehem*, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General, ſtating that he hath been applied to by *James Milligan*, Eſquire, Comptroller of the Treaſury of the United States, to commute the balance of an account of *Robert Morris*, Eſquire, late Agent of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, into ſpecific ſupplies, which balance is ſaid to have been applied to the uſe of the ſaid United States, was read, together with the ſeveral papers therein referred to, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 16th, on the ſeveral robberies ſaid to have been committed in the county of *Cheſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 11th, on the petition of *Ann Grant*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to empower the Sheriff of the county of* Cheſter "*to remove the priſoners from the old gaol in the town of* Cheſter, *to the new* "*gaol in* Goſhen *townſhip, in ſaid county, and to indemnify him for the ſame,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for authoriſing and directing the Comptroller-* "*General to iſſue a certificate in favor of* William Tharp, *for a ſum of money* "*due to him from this commonwealth, in conſequence of an agreement of the ho-* "*norable the Supreme Executive Council,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing a ferry and building a bridge* "*acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time.

And on the queſtion—"*Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs?*"

It was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to diſtribute and annex the juriſdiction of this* "*commonwealth upon the river* Delaware, *below the Station Point, and to certain* "*iſlands within the ſame, to the counties of* Northampton, Bucks, Philadel- "phia *and* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the upper part of the county of* Northumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Whelen*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Logan,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Arthur Erwin,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *John Smith,*
9 *Joſeph Thomas,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Jonathan Morris,*
12 *Townſend Whelen,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *David M'Conaughy,*
15 *David M'Clellan,*
16 *Robert Whitehill,*
17 *John Carothers,*
18 *Frederick Watts,*
19 *John Creigh,*
20 *Abraham Lincoln,*
21 *Nicholas Lutz,*
22 *Henry Spyker,*

YEAS.

23 *Philip Kreemer,*
24 *David Davis,*
25 *Baltzer Gehr,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Peter Burkhalter,*
28 *Robert Brown,*
29 *John Piper,*
30 *Frederick Antes,*
31 *Samuel Dale,*
32 *John Hughes,*
33 *John M'Dowell,*
34 *James Edgar,*
35 *John Smilie,*
36 *James M'Calmont,*
37 *Abraham Smith,*
38 *John Rhea,*
39 *Robert Loller,*
40 *Peter Richards,*
41 *Adam Orth,*
42 *Robert Clark,*
43 *David Krouſe,*
44 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *James Irvine,*
2 *Iſaac Gray,*
3 *John Salter,*
4 *Robert Ralſton,*
5 *James Moore,*
6 *Samuel Evans,*
7 *Adam Hubley,*

NAYS.

8 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
9 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
10 *Joſeph Work,*
11 *Abraham Scott,*
12 *Michael Schmyſer,*
13 *Joſeph Lilly,*
14 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate non-reſident owners of lands within a certain diſtrict, who have been impeded in the ſettlement thereof by the diſturbances of the* Connecticut *claimants at* Wyoming, *from the payment of taxes, until they can be put in poſſeſſion, and quieted in the enjoyment of their property.*"

And in debating the firſt enacting clauſe, as follows, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and every the owner and owners of lands within the bounds hereinafter ſpecified, who do not reſide upon them, or ſome part of them, or who are not by themſelves, or their agents or tenants holding under them, in the perception of the rents, iſſues and profits thereof, be, and all ſuch non-reſident owners are by force of this preſent act acquitted, releaſed, exonerated and diſcharged of and from the payment of all rates, taxes and aſſeſſments, of every nature and kind whatſoever, which, ſince the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, have been or hereafter ſhall be laid, aſſeſſed or levied upon the landed eſtates by them reſpectively held within the bounds hereinafter mentioned, whereof the ſaid owners have not been or ſhall not be in the actual poſſeſſion, by themſelves, their agents or tenants, until, by a reſtitution of order and ſubmiſſion to the government of this commonwealth, the ſaid owners ſhall be enabled to take poſſeſſion, and ſhall be reſtored to the quiet enjoyment of the ſame lands."

It was moved by Mr. *Clymer*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To amend the ſaid clauſe, by ſtriking out, after the words "*eighty, have been*," the words "*or hereafter ſhall be*;" and after the words "*owners have not been*," the words "*or ſhall not be*;" and after the words "*their agents or tenants*," the words "*until by a reſtitution of order and ſubmiſſion to the government of this commonwealth, the ſaid owners ſhall be enabled to take poſſeſſion, and ſhall be reſtored to the quiet enjoyment of the ſame lands*;" ſo as to read as follows, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and every the owner and owners of lands within the bounds hereinafter ſpecified, who do not reſide upon them, or ſome part of them, or who are not by themſelves, or their agents or tenants holding under them, in the perception of the rents, iſſues and profits thereof, be, and all ſuch non-reſident owners are by force of this preſent act acquitted, releaſed, exonerated and diſcharged of and from the payment of all rates, taxes and aſſeſſments, of every nature and kind whatſoever, which, ſince the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, have been laid, aſſeſſed or levied upon the landed eſtates by them reſpectively held within the bounds hereinafter mentioned, whereof the ſaid owners have not been in the actual poſſeſſion, by themſelves, their agents or tenants."

And on the queſtion,—"Shall the clauſe be amended as above ſtated?"

It was determined in the negative.

The queſtion was then taken upon the original clauſe, and the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *R. Morris* and Mr. *Clymer*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *James Irvine*,
5 *George Clymer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *William Robinſon*, jun.
10 *Robert Smith*,

YEAS.

11 *Samuel Evans*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Adam Hubley*,
14 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
15 *Joſeph Work*,
16 *Michael Schmyſer*,
17 *Joſeph Lilly*,
18 *John Hughes*,
19 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
20 *Peter Richards*.

NAYS.

1 *John Smith,*
2 *Joſeph Thomas,*
3 *Robert Ralſton,*
4 *Jonathan Morris,*
5 *Alexander Lowrey,*
6 *Abraham Scott,*
7 *David M'Conaughy,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*
9 *John Carothers,*
10 *Frederick Watts,*
11 *John Creigh,*
12 *Abraham Lincoln,*
13 *Nicholas Lutz,*
14 *Henry Spyker,*
15 *Philip Kreemer,*
16 *David Davis,*
17 *Baltzer Gehr,*

NAYS.

18 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
19 *Peter Burkhalter,*
20 *Robert Brown,*
21 *John Piper,*
22 *Frederick Antes,*
23 *Samuel Dale,*
24 *John M'Dowell,*
25 *James Edgar,*
26 *John Smilie,*
27 *James M'Calmont,*
28 *Abraham Smith,*
29 *John Rhea,*
30 *Robert Loller,*
31 *Adam Orth,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *Daniel Bradley.*

So it was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, *September* 25, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *September* 16th, on the letters from *John Dunlap* and *Francis Bailey*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on certain manufactures which interfere with them," *as lays an additional duty on wines and fruit, the growth and product of the kingdom of* Portugal," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for erecting the northern part of the county of* Northumberland *into a ſeparate county.*

An ACT *to diſtribute and annex the juriſdiction of this commonwealth upon the river* Delaware, *below the Station Point, and to certain iſlands within the ſame, to the counties of* Northampton, Bucks, Philadelphia *and* Cheſter.

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church of* Silver Spring, *in the county of* Cumberland.

An ACT *for authoriſing and directing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate in favor of* William Tharpe, *for a ſum of money due to him from this* *common-*

commonwealth, in conſequence of an agreement of the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council.

An ACT *for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice.*

An ACT *to empower the Sheriff of the county of* Cheſter *to remove the priſoners from the old gaol in the town of* Cheſter, *to the new gaol in* Goſhen *townſhip, in ſaid county, and to indemnify him for the ſame.*

An ACT *for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation.*

Petitions from *William Stewart* and *Jacob Weitzel* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Luzerne.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to authoriſe and empower* Frederick Smyth, " *of the city of* Philadelphia, *Eſquire, and* Margaret, *his wife, late* Margaret " Oſwald, *and the Honorable* John Penn *and* Edward Shippen, *Eſquires, and* " *Doctor* Thomas Parke, *to ſell and convey a meſſuage and lot of ground therein* " *deſcribed, upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table.

And on the queſtion, " *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law, and the Speaker be directed to ſign the ſame ?*" the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Loller,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *James Irvine,*
5 *George Clymer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *Robert Smith,*
11 *Samuel Evans,*
12 *Jonathan Morris,*
13 *Townſend Whelen,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Emanuel Carpenter,*

YEAS.

17 *Joſeph Work,*
18 *Abraham Scott,*
19 *David M'Conaughy,*
20 *Michael Schmyſer,*
21 *Joſeph Lilley,*
22 *David M'Clellan,*
23 *Frederick Watts,*
24 *Nicholas Lutz,*
25 *Philip Kreemer,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *John Hughes,*
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
29 *Adam Orth,*
30 *David Krouſe,*
31 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *John Clark,*
2 *Arthur Erwin,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *John Smith,*
5 *Joſeph Thomas,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *Robert Whitehill,*
8 *John Carothers,*
9 *John Creigh,*
10 *Abraham Lincoln,*

NAYS.

11 *Henry Spyker,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Baltzer Gehr,*
14 *Peter Burkhalter,*
15 *John Piper,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *John M'Dowell,*
19 *James Edgar,*
20 *John Smilie,*

NAYS.

21 *James M'Calmont,*
22 *Abraham Smith,*
23 *John Rhea,*

NAYS.

24 *Robert Lollar,*
25 *Peter Richards,*
26 *Robert Clark.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

In conſequence of the reſolution of this Houſe of the 12th of *September* inſtant, the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia* tranſmitted a return of all the taxable inhabitants of the ſaid city: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to the committee appointed *Auguſt* 29th laſt, on the returns from the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 26, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *James Moore,* junior, and *Alexander Ruſſel,* ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Luzerne,* were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *September* 14th, on the letter from *Joſeph Stiles,* was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the letter from *Joſeph Stiles* be ſpecially recommended to the attention of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

It was moved by Mr. *Bradley,* and ſeconded by Mr. *R. Clark,*

That the Houſe reſume the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*to ſuſpend the force and operation of part of an act of General Aſſembly, enti-* "*tuled* " An Act for erecting part of the county of *Lancaſter* into a ſeparate " county."

The queſtion of Order was called. Whereupon

The ſame was ſtated as follows, viz.

That this bill was on *Wedneſday,* the 20th inſtant, read the ſecond time; and on the queſtion put,—" Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs?"—it was determined in the negative. Therefore, " Is it in order to reſume the conſideration of the ſaid bill?"

And on the queſtion, it was determined in the negative.

The committee appointed *September* 16th, on the memorial of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 1ſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments of taxable property and perſons within the county of *Berks,* for the years 1785 and 1786.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member preſented to the chair a tranſcript of the aſſeſſment of taxable property and perſons within the county of *Franklin,* for the year 1786, which was

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled* "An Act "to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with "them," *as lays an additional duty on wines and fruit, the growth and product "of the kingdom of* Portugal," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *Auguſt* 29th, on the returns of taxables from the county of *Cumberland* and the city and county of *Philadelphia*, made report; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the liſts of taxable inhabitants, report,——

That ſince their laſt report, they have had under conſideration returns of the women poſſeſſed of taxable property within the city and the county of *Philadelphia*, from which it appears, that the number in the city amounts to 322, and in the county 235.

That the returns from the county of *Cumberland* have been ſince received, and the number of taxables therein amounts to 3939; but that the ſaid return is not certified under the hands and ſeals of the commiſſioners, nor is the depoſition under the ſeal of the Magiſtrate before whom it was taken.

That they have had before them the laſt returns from the city of *Philadelphia*, and that the number of perſons in the ſaid returns, including women, amounts to 5562.

That upon referring to the precept iſſued by the Commiſſioners for taking the ſaid returns, the committee find that the ſaid Commiſſioners have not adhered ſtrictly to the words of the law which directs the returns to be taken, nor to the ſubſequent reſolution of this Houſe, under which the preſent returns are formed. They find, moreover, that the returns are not qualified to by the Aſſeſſors, nor have the Commiſſioners certified upon oath as to the authenticity of the ſaid returns.

Under theſe circumſtances, the committee judged it proper to enquire of the Commiſſioners as to the reaſon of the informalities above recited, and received for anſwer, that the word *ſojourn*, found in their precept, had been made uſe of on former occaſions; in proof of which a precept, directing the aſſeſſment of taxable property under the funding law, was produced. That the word *taxable* being left out was, as they apprehended, agreeable to the ſpirit of the reſolution under which the ſaid return was made. And with reſpect to their having omitted to certify the returns, as was directed by the act of the 3d day of *March* laſt, they conceived, that their former return having been made in ſtrict conformity to that law, they were not bound to make any other or further qualification, than "that the returns now laid before the Houſe were truly and *bona fide* thoſe made to them by the Ward Aſſeſſors," which qualification they were ready to make.

All which circumſtances the committee have thought it their duty to ſtate to the Houſe, and thereupon to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the laſt return made to this Houſe of the number of inhabitants within the city of *Philadelphia* ought not to be received.

After conſiderable debate had enſued on the foregoing report, the queſtion was put,—"Will the Houſe adopt the reſolution ſubmitted by the committee?" and the Yeas and Nays being called thereon, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *James Irvine,*
4 *George Logan,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Clark,*
7 *Arthur Erwin,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *John Smith,*
10 *Joſeph Thomas,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Thomas Bull,*
14 *Robert Smith,*
15 *Townſend Whelen,*
16 *Alexander Lowrey,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*
19 *Abraham Scott,*
20 *David M'Conaughy,*
21 *Michael Schmyſer,*
22 *Joſeph Lilly,*
23 *David M'Clellan,*
24 *Robert Whitehill,*
25 *John Carothers,*
26 *Frederick Watts,*

YEAS.

27 *John Creigh,*
28 *Abraham Lincoln,*
29 *Nicholas Lutz,*
30 *Henry Spyker,*
31 *Philip Kreemer,*
32 *David Davis,*
33 *Baltzer Gehr,*
34 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
35 *Peter Burkhalter,*
36 *Robert Brown,*
37 *John Piper,*
38 *Frederick Antes,*
39 *Samuel Dale,*
40 *William Todd,*
41 *William Findley,*
42 *John Hughes,*
43 *John M'Dowell,*
44 *James Edgar,*
45 *John Smilie,*
46 *James M'Calmont,*
47 *Abraham Smith,*
48 *John Rhea,*
49 *Peter Richards,*
50 *Adam Orth,*
51 *Robert Clark,*
52 *Daniel Bradley.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
2 *George Clymer,*

NAYS.

3 *Samuel Wheeler.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

REASONS of Diſſent from the vote for rejecting the new return of taxables from the city of Philadelphia.

I. BECAUSE the original return of taxables under the funding act only being, by the reſolution to obtain the ſupplementary one, admitted to be defective, and incapable of ſtanding ſingly, any repreſentation grounded on that alone muſt alſo be defective.

II. Becauſe, admitting that the new return might have been inaccurately taken, yet the adoption of it would have been only a poſſible error; but to act upon the original return is to err abſolutely and allowedly.

III. Becauſe the informalities alſo objected to the new return ſeemed a conſequence of that haſte with which the orders of the Houſe were neceſſarily executed. The aſſeſſors found it difficult, in ſo limited a time, to diſtinguiſh between taxables under the funding act and other taxables, and therefore blended them in one common return, inſtead of following the letter of the reſolution, which directed a ſupplementary return. The Commiſſioners refuſed to authenticate, by the cuſtomary oath, the return of each aſſeſſor, becauſe they had not time ſufficient to examine it—and indeed the oath ought not to have been required of them, as the ſpecial reſolution under which they acted did not preſcribe it.

IV. Becauſe no perſon, intelligent in the ſubject, can believe that the new return, inaccurate or irregular as it may be, has carried the number of city taxables beyond the reality. On the contrary, there is ground to apprehend, from the encreaſed buildings and crowded population of the city, that an accurate computation would have given a much higher reſult.

V. Becauſe there is a manifeſt partiality in confirming the *Cumberland* return, and rejecting that from *Philadelphia*, both being charged with the like informality of wanting the Commiſſioners ſolemn authentication; and there is no diſcriminating circumſtance between them, of ſuch nature as ought to have conſigned them to ſuch different fates.

George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Samuel Wheeler.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*appoint a repreſentation for the city of* Philadelphia, *and the ſeveral counties* "*in this commonwealth, in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants in each,* "*for the enſuing ſeven years,*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 27, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying that ſaid county may be divided into diſtricts, for the purpoſe of election.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Comptroller-General, read *September* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* be a committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed to contract for certain repairs, *&c.* made report, which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to contract for certain repairs, *&c.* report, in part,——

That they have contracted for a new roof to the committee room, for the ſum of *thirty-two pounds and ten ſhillings,* and offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted and empowered to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for *thirty-two pounds and ten ſhillings*, in favor of *George Pearſon*, as ſoon as the aforeſaid repairs ſhall be compleated.

The report of the committee appointed on the memorial of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the memorial of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital report,——

That in the opinion of the committee, the managers of the Hoſpital, in receiving the aid of money from the Aſſembly in *March* 1780, liquidated at *one hundred and ſixty-three pounds eighteen ſhillings and eight-pence* ſpecie value, had juſt reaſon at the time to conſider it as a gift, intended by the then Houſe to the uſe of the Hoſpital, and that the amount being made a charge againſt it proceeded from miſtake.

Your committee conſequently conceive, that the ſaid inſtitution ought not now to be made accountable for the ſaid money; but as, by reaſon of the approaching diſſolution of the Houſe, no preſent meaſures can be taken to exonerate the managers from the payment thereof, the committee propoſe to reſolve,

That the ſaid memorial of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, together with the report of the committee of this Houſe thereon, be recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts, purſuant to the orders of this Houſe, reported——

That they had received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds*, in the bills of credit dated the 16th day of *March*, 1785, which they had counted, examined, burnt and deſtroyed, agreeably to the directions of the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the* "*quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the United* "*States; and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of this* "*ſtate.*"

The committee of accounts made report, which was read the firſt time; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report,——

That by an account exhibited by *Leibart* and *Billmyer*, it appears there is due to them for ſixty ſheets of the Minutes of this Houſe, printed in the *German* language, *one hundred and eighty pounds*; for eight ſheets of the report of the committee on Ways and Means, at *five pounds fifteen ſhillings* per ſheet, *forty-ſix pounds*; for printing the bills for public conſideration, thirty-nine columns, at *ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence*, *thirty-four pounds eleven ſhillings and three-pence*; but it appears that by their propoſals they ſhould have charged but *ſeventeen ſhillings* for each column.

That there is due to *Matthew Carey* and company, for news-papers, from *Auguſt* 1785 till *Auguſt* 1786, *ten pounds ten ſhillings*.

That there is due to *Henry Bealer*, for his attendance as a witneſs upon a conteſted election at *Lebanon*, for five days attendance, and allowance for coming and returning, *four pounds ten ſhillings*.

That there is due to *Henry Dering*, *Michael App*, *George Graff*, *Abraham Witmer*, *John Miller*, *Daniel Witmer* and *Jacob Reigart*, for their attendance nine days, reſpectively, upon a conteſted election held in the county of *Lancaſter*, *four pounds ten ſhillings* each, and allowance for coming and going.

That there is due to *Thomas Edwards*, late Sheriff of *Lancaſter* county, for his trouble and expence in ſummoning witneſſes on a conteſted election held in the ſaid county, *ſixteen pounds three ſhillings and four-pence.*

That by the accounts exhibited to them from the Truſtees of the General Loan-Office, there appears to be due to them for contingent expences, and the wages of their clerks for ſeven months, *ninety-two pounds fifteen ſhillings and one penny.*

That there is due to *James Irvine*, Eſquire, for his attendance in burning money, during the receſs of the Houſe, twelve days, *nine pounds.*

To *Robert Loller*, Eſquire, for his attendance on the ſaid buſineſs, during the receſs of the Houſe, ſixteen days, *twelve pounds.*

That the Clerk of this Houſe has exhibited an account and vouchers for contingent expences paid by him, amounting to the ſum of *two hundred and thirty-five pounds nine ſhillings and one penny*, which exceeds the orders drawn in his favor *nine ſhillings and one penny.*

That there is due to *Hall* and *Sellers*, for printing the Minutes of the firſt and ſecond ſeſſions of the preſent General Aſſembly, ſixty ſheets, at *three pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence, two hundred and two pounds ten ſhillings*; for eight ſheets of the report of the committee of Ways and Means, at *ſix pounds ten ſhillings, fifty-two pounds.*

Therefore the committee offer the following reſolution :

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed and requeſted to draw the following orders upon the Treaſurer of the State :

In favor of *Leibart* and *Billmyer*, for *two hundred and ſixty pounds eleven ſhillings and three-pence.*

In favor of *Matthew Carey*, and Co. for *ten pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Henry Bealer*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Henry Dering*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Michael App*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *George Graff*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Abraham Witmer*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *John Miller*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Daniel Witmer*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Jacob Reigart*, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Edwards*, for *ſixteen pounds three ſhillings and four-pence.*

In favor of *James Irvine*, Eſquire, for *nine pounds.*

In favor of *Robert Loller*, Eſquire, for *twelve pounds.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, for *two hundred and fifty-four pounds ten ſhillings.*

Mr. *Loller*, who was appointed to collect the fines that might be incurred by members of this Houſe, preſented a paper, ſigned by *Mordecai Lewis*, Treaſurer to the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, acknowledging the receipt of the ſum of *ten pounds ſeventeen ſhillings and ſix-pence* from Mr. *Loller*, which ſum, together with what has been heretofore paid to him on that account, amounts to *forty-two pounds eleven ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

The bill, entituled " *An Act to appoint a repreſentation for the city of* Philadelphia, *and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, in proportion to the* "*number of taxable inhabitants in each, for the enſuing ſeven years,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion, *Ordered,* That three hundred copies of the aforeſaid act be printed, and diſtributed for the information of the citizens of this ſtate.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed to examine the files of the Houſe, *&c.* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to examine the files of the Houſe, *&c.* offer the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That the following bills be ſpecially recommended to the attention of the next General Aſſembly, *viz.*

The bill for regulating the Militia.

The bill for laying out a road from the *Patowmack* to *Ohio.*

The ſupplement to the Poor laws.

Whereupon, It was moved by Mr. *Logan,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey,*

That that part of the report of the committee on the ſubject of the expences of Government, poſtponed *April* 5th, which recommends a reduction of the wages of members of Aſſembly, be added to the foregoing report.

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?"

It was carried in the negative.

The report was then adopted.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Edward Stiles,* poſtponed *Auguſt* 31ſt, which is as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition and account of *Edward Stiles,* beg leave to report:—That the petitioner left his farm near this city, together with a quantity of perſonal property, and, as he alledges, went to *Bermuda,* but on his return was taken priſoner by the Captain of the *Roebuck,* and carried to *New-York,* where he remained a priſoner for two months, then returned on parole to *Philadelphia.* In the mean time Commiſſioners were appointed by an act of the Council of Safety, who ſeized a part of the property at ſaid farm, under a preſumption that ſaid petitioner had joined the enemy; and as it does not appear to your committee that the petitioner has been attainted for any treaſons, whereby he has forfeited his property, they think it but reaſonable that he ſhould be reimburſed.

Your committee are further of opinion, that the horſes and other property charged in his account are not ſufficiently proven; therefore offer the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, for the amount of the ſales of the property of the ſaid *Edward Stiles.*

And on the queſtion,—"Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed this forenoon, on the letter from the Comptroller-General, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

That from reference to the Minutes of a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and information from the Comptroller-General, they find, that upon the 21ſt day of *November*, 1782, the General Aſſembly, upon a report of a committee, came to the following reſolution:

" Whereas it appears by the accounts of *Robert Morris*, Eſquire, agent for " this ſtate in the purchaſe of ſpecific ſupplies, that this ſtate hath credit with " him on that account for the ſum of *two hundred and ſixty-ſix thouſand ſix* " *hundred and ſixty-ſix and two thirds dollars*, of which ſum *fifty-five thouſand* " *four hundred and forty-one and one ninetieth dollars* only have been actually " laid out in the purchaſe of flour, *ſixty-ſeven thouſand four hundred and ninety-ſix* " *and forty-three ninetieths dollars* have been applied to the payment of " rations obtained on contract, and ſuch part of the reſidue of the aforeſaid " ſum as he had actually received has been applied generally to the ſervice of the " United States; that therefore the Comptroller-General be directed to ſettle " with the Superintendant of Finance (or with ſome perſon appointed by him) " the quantity of ſpecific ſupplies for which this ſtate is to obtain credit, by " commuting the caſh which was not actually laid out in flour into the ſpecific " articles required, in order that the account of ſpecific ſupplies may be " finally adjuſted."

By information from the Comptroller-General, it appears that a perſon was appointed on the part of the Superintendant of Finance, for the purpoſe aforeſaid, but that the adjuſtment has never been made, owing to a difference in opinion between the perſon ſo appointed and the ſaid Comptroller-General.

It further appears, that the then Superintendant of Finance having gone out of office before the ſettlement was made, the powers of the Comptroller-General under the ſaid reſolution have expired, and that the United States in Congreſs aſſembled have appointed a perſon on their behalf, who is now attending in this city, for the purpoſe of ſettling and adjuſting the ſaid accounts.

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General be directed to ſettle with the United States in Congreſs aſſembled (or with ſome perſon appointed by them) the quantity of ſpecific ſupplies for which this ſtate is to obtain credit, by commuting the caſh which was not actually laid out in flour by the late Superintendant of Finance into the ſpecific articles required, in conformity to the reſolution of the General Aſſembly of this ſtate, of the 21ſt day of *November*, 1782.

Reſolved, That the powers abovementioned ſhall be veſted in the Comptroller-General of this ſtate until the firſt day of *January* next, and no longer.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported, that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. An ACT for incorporating the *German* Reformed congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*.

II. An ACT to extend the benefit of an act, entituled " *An Act to give* " *the benefit of trial by jury to the public officers of this ſtate, and to other perſons* " *who ſhall be proceeded againſt in a ſummary manner by the Comptroller-* " *General of this ſtate*," to ſuch perſon or perſons, whoſe accounts were ſettled before the publication of the ſame act.

III. An ACT for veſting certain city lots therein mentioned in Truſtees, for a burial ground, for the uſe of the religious ſociety of *Free Quakers* in the city of *Philadelphia*.

IV. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in the borough of *Carliſle*, in the county of *Cumberland*.

V. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of *Brandywine*, in the townſhip of *Weſt-Nantmill*, in the county of *Cheſter*.

VI. An ACT to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*, ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſaid church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction.

VII. A SUPPLEMENT to an act, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh and* " *incorporate a public ſchool at* Germantown, *in the county of* Philadelphia."

VIII. An ACT for incorporating the Baptiſt church in the townſhip of *New-Britain*, and county of *Bucks*.

IX. An ACT for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *Benſalem*, in the county of *Bucks*.

X. An ACT for confirming and amending the charter of the *German* Reformed congregation in the borough of *Lancaſter*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, in the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*.

XI. An ACT to relieve the owners of unimproved lands from the inconveniencies they are ſubject to, by the preſent mode of enforcing the payment of taxes aſſeſſed thereon.

XII. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in *Donegal* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*.

XIII. An ACT for amending the penal laws of this ſtate.

XIV. An ACT for altering and amending an act, entituled " *An Act* " *to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds* " *therein*."

XV. An ACT to empower and direct *Ann M'Farren*, *John Agnew* and *William M'Clean*, adminiſtrators of all and ſingular the goods and chattels, rights and credits, which were of *Amos M'Ginley*, deceaſed, to convey certain lands in *Hamilton-ban* and *Cumberland* townſhips, in *York* county, to ſundry perſons, for whom the ſaid *Amos M'Ginley* was a truſtee, and to veſt the ſame in the grantees.

XVI. An ACT for the relief of *George Schloſſer*.

XVII. An ACT for erecting the northern part of the county of *Northumberland* into a ſeparate county.

XVIII. An ACT to diſtribute and annex the juriſdiction of this commonwealth upon the river *Delaware*, below the Station Point, and to certain iſlands within the ſame, to the counties of *Northampton*, *Bucks*, *Philadelphia* and *Cheſter*.

XIX. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church of *Silver Spring*, in the county of *Cumberland*.

XX. An ACT for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice.

XXI. An ACT for authoriſing and directing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate in favor of *William Tharpe*, for a ſum of money due to him from this commonwealth, in conſequence of an agreement with the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council.

XXII. An ACT to empower the Sheriff of the county of *Cheſter* to remove the priſoners from the old gaol in the town of *Cheſter*, to the new gaol in *Goſhen* townſhip, in ſaid county, and to indemnify him for the ſame.

XXIII. An ACT to authoriſe and empower *Frederick Smyth*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Eſquire, and *Margaret*, his wife, late *Margaret Oſwald*, and the Honorable *John Penn* and *Edward Shippen*, Eſquires, and Dr. *Thomas*

mas Parke, to ſell and convey a meſſuage and lot of ground therein deſcribed, upon the terms and conditions therein mentioned.

XXIV. An ACT for the prevention of vice and immorality, and of unlawful gaming, and to reſtrain diſorderly ſports and diſſipation.

XXV. An ACT to appoint a repreſentation for the city of *Philadelphia,* and the ſeveral counties in this commonwealth, in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants in each, for the enſuing ſeven years.

XXVI. An ACT to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled " *An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them,*" as lays an additional duty on wines and fruit, the growth and product of the kingdom of *Portugal.*

Which Laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate for *fifty pounds,* in favor of *Samuel Bryan,* Eſq; to enable him to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, he to account therefor with the Comptroller-General.

Reſolved, That the Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk be ſeverally allowed twenty-ſeven days wages ſubſequent to the adjournment of this Houſe, and that the Speaker draw orders on the ſtate Treaſurer for the ſame.

Reſolved, That the Sergeant at Arms and Door-keeper be ſeverally allowed twelve days wages extra, for their ſervices, and that the Speaker be authoriſed to draw orders on the ſtate Treaſurer for the ſame.

A member preſented to the chair tranſcripts of the aſſeſſments of taxable perſons and property within the county of *Waſhington,* for the years 1781, 1782 and 1786, which were

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Morris,*

Reſolved, That the thanks of this Houſe be given to the Speaker, for his faithful, candid and able diſcharge of the important duties of his office.

The Houſe adjourned, *ſine die.*

APPENDIX.

The following Papers were handed in too late to be inſerted in their proper Place.

REASONS of diſſent of the minority, on the bill for annulling the declaration of truſt of the Scots *Preſbyterians.*

1ſt. BECAUSE we believe the laws of our country fully adequate to protect every citizen in the full enjoyment of his life, liberty and property.

2d. Becauſe the interference of the magiſtrate or legiſlature in matters of conſcience, or between a man and his creator, is a direct violation of our conſtitution, which declares—" That all men have a natural and unalienable right to worſhip Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conſcience and underſtanding, and that no man ought, or of right can, be compelled to attend any religious worſhip, or erect or ſupport any place of worſhip, or maintain any miniſtry, contrary to or againſt his own free will and conſent; nor can any man who acknowledges the being of a God be juſtly deprived or abridged of any civil right as a citizen, on account of his religious ſentiments or peculiar mode of religious worſhip; and that no authority can or ought to be veſted in or aſſumed by any power whatever, that ſhall in any caſe interfere with, or in any manner controul the right of conſcience in the free exerciſe of religious worſhip."

3d. Becauſe we regard the preſent bill for annulling the declaration of truſt of the *Scots* Preſbyterians, as a precedent dangerous to the religious liberties of the people.

George Logan,
Robert Smith,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Iſaac Gray,
Emanuel Carpenter,
Michael Schmyſer,
Philip Gartner,
Adam Eichelberger,
Henry Tyſon,
Townſend Whelen,
Joſeph Lilly,
John Carothers,
Abraham Lincoln.

REASONS of aſſent to the bill, " to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the Scots *Preſbyterian Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame Church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction."*

THE deed of truſt recited in the bill was a legal inſtrument; and, though it concerned a religious ſociety, was not the leſs of a civil nature. It was a declaration of the will of the ſociety reſpecting certain points of its own diſcipline, government and property.

The ſociety, for whoſe uſe the truſt was originally inſtituted, had at all times a right of judgment over it; and if it had not in itſelf the power of relief, in caſes where the truſt might have been adjudged in the whole, or in part, prejudicial to the intereſts of the church, and ſuch relief could not be found in the ordinary courts, limited by common law rules, a privilege certainly remained to it, in defect of a chancery juriſdiction, of reſorting to the equitable diſcretion of the legiſlature.

To queſtion the only means of redreſſing this ſpecies of grievance, is to ſuppoſe a miſerable chaſm in the juſtice of the ſtate.

It was not ſo much the part of the Houſe to go upon the merits of the clauſe in the deed of truſt propoſed to be annulled, as to know what was the deſire of the ſociety concerning it. This deſire was ſignified to the Houſe by ſuch members of the ſociety, as, by the conſtitution of the church, were qualified to ſpeak for it.—The Houſe had then but to proceed accordingly.

But were the clauſe in queſtion of ſuch nature as to require particular regard, here the Houſe can incur no blame. The clauſe bound to no point of religious doctrine. It concerned no article of faith. The Houſe then, in annulling it at the prayer of the legal majority of the ſociety, did not in any wiſe ſtep in between God and man, but between man and man.

If, as the remonſtrants againſt the bill affirm, the clauſe was altogether inoperative, in regard both to the civil and religious concerns of the church, what poſſible intereſt could have been hurt, what prejudice even wounded, by gratifying the petitioners.

But the eventual controul over the ſociety in *ſpirituals*, certainly given by the clauſe to a foreign juriſdiction, operated eventually in *temporals*; and the property of the church generally, and of its members individually, was liable to be affected by it.

George Clymer,
William Robinſon, jun.
James Irvine,
John Smilie,
Robert Loller,
John M‘Dowell,
James Edgar,
William Findley,
Robert Whitehill,
John Rhea,
James M‘Calmont,
John Creigh,
Abraham Smith,
Frederick Watts,
Samuel Dale,
William Will,
John Clark,
Frederick Antes,
Robert Clark,
David Davis.

Philadelphia: PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE ELEVENTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the Twenty-third Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſix.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.
M,DCC,LXXXVI.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE

ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, October 23, 1786. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as Repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly; but not being a quorum, they

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 24, 1786. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum, they

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, October 25, 1786. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met, purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum, they

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Thurſday, October 26, 1786. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum; and

On motion, The returns of the elections held in the city of *Philadelphia*, and in the counties of *Philadelphia, Bucks, Cheſter, Lancaſter, York, Cumberland, Berks, Northampton, Northumberland, Waſhington, Franklin, Montgomery* and *Dauphin*, in this ſtate, were read, by which it appeared that the following gentlemen were duly returned as Repreſentatives for the ſaid city and counties reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
William Will,
Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
George Clymer,
Jacob Hiltzheimer.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Thomas Mifflin,
Iſaac Gray,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,
George Logan.

For the county of BUCKS.
Samuel Foulke,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Upp.

For the county of CHESTER.
James Moore,
Richard Willing,
Robert Ralſton,
Samuel Evans,
Richard Thomas,
Townſend Whelen.

For the county of LANCASTER.
Samuel J. Atlee,
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
Emanuel Carpenter,
Joſeph Work,
George Roſs.

For the county of York.
David M'Conaughy,
Michael Schmyſer,
David M'Clellan,
Joſeph Lilley,
Henry Tyſon,
Adam Eichelberger.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Bales,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell.

For the county of BERKS.
Joſeph Heiſter,
Philip Kreemer,
Gabriel Heiſter,
David Davis,
Daniel Clymer.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Peter Trexler, jun.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Robert Brown,
Peter Burkhalter.

For the county of NORTHUMB.
Frederick Antes,
Samuel Dale.

For the county of WASHINGTON.
Alexander Wright,
John M'Dowell,
John Flannegan,
James Alliſon.

For the county of FRANKLIN.
Abraham Smith,
James M'Calmont.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Charles Moore,
Samuel Wheeler,
James Hockley,
Jacob Reiff.

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Robert Clark,
Jacob Miley,
John Carſon.

Note. No returns have been received from the counties of *Bedford, Weſtmoreland, Fayette* and *Luzerne.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

William Will,
Robert Morris,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
George Clymer,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
Thomas Mifflin,
Iſaac Gray,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,

MEMBERS PRESENT.

George Logan,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Valentine Upp,
James Moore,
Richard Willing,
Robert Ralſton,
Samuel Evans,
Richard Thomas,
Townſend Whelen,
Samuel J. Atlee,
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
Joſeph Work,
George Roſs,
David M'Conaughy,
Joſeph Lilly,
Adam Eichelberger,
Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Kennedy,
Philip Kreemer,
David Davis,
Daniel Clymer,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Robert Brown,
Peter Burkhalter,
Frederick Antes,
Samuel Dale,
John M'Dowell,
Abraham Smith,
James M'Calmont,
Charles Moore,
Samuel Wheeler,
Jacob Reiff,
Robert Clark,
Jacob Miley.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Thomas Mifflin,* Eſquire, was duly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution.

The members were then ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Peter Zachary Lloyd,* Eſquire, was duly elected Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus,* Eſquire, Aſſiſtant Clerk, who appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified to the faithful execution of their reſpective offices.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Nicholas Weaver* was duly elected Serjeant at Arms, and *Joſeph Fry* Door-keeper, who were ſeverally qualified for the faithful performance of their reſpective duties.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* be a committee, to inform Council, that the Houſe being met is ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them; and that they confer with Council, concerning the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 27, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Samuel Foulke, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Bucks,* *Thomas Beale,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Cumberland,* and *John Carſon,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified agreeably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtry-men of the United Epiſcopal Churches of *Chriſt-Church* and St. *Peter's,* in the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that Dr. *John Kearſley,* deceaſed, by his laſt will, deviſed a certain lot of ground in the *Northern-Liberties* of the ſaid city, to be diſpoſed of, and the money ariſing therefrom to be employed for the purpoſe of founding and endowing an Infirmary, or Alms-houſe, for the relief of poor and diſtreſſed women, to be called and known by the name of *Chriſt-Church Hoſpital*; and further, by his laſt will appointed certain executors, to diſpoſe of ſaid lot for the above purpoſes, who are ſince deceaſed without fulfilling the directions of his will; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing certain perſons to carry the intentions of the teſtator into effect.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon*, Eſquire, Judge of the Admiralty, was read, of a ſimilar tenor with his letter read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *October* 31ſt laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Timothy Pickering* and *John Reiley* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, for the county of *Luzerne*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday to inform Council, that the Houſe being met was ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, and to confer with that Honorable Board concerning the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that they would in the courſe of the day lay ſome buſineſs before the Houſe, and propoſe the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Whitehill*, be a committee, to prepare a draught of proper rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall have been reported and adopted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Dale* be appointed to collect the fines that may be incurred by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Lilly*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *C. Moore* and Mr. *Clark*, be a committee, to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Moore* and Mr. *Smith*, be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Carſon*, be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be and are hereby empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Whelen* and Mr. *Smith*, be a committee, for examining the laws and minutes of the Houſe, preparing them for publication, and correcting them at the preſs.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and that the nomination of perſons for Delegates continue until the day of election.

Reſolved, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the choice of Printers for the current year.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *October* 28, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Alexander Wright, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A petition from *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez* was read, referring to their petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 1ſt laſt, and praying this Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration, and grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the Chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

In COUNCIL, *Philadelphia*, *October* 27, 1786.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting the incloſed papers for the information of the General Aſſembly.

I am, *SIR*,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient Servant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER, *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, Treaſurer of this ſtate, was read, praying to be re-appointed to that office.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Ruſſel* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Luzerne*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Reſolved, That the Treaſurer of this ſtate lay before this Houſe, as ſoon as poſſible, a general account of all the monies received into or paid out of the public treaſury ſince the thirty-firſt day of *December* laſt, placing under the proper heads the ſums ſo received and paid.

Reſolved, That the Comptroller-General be directed, and he is hereby directed to furniſh the committee on ways and means, with all ſuch information, ſtatements, and documents from his office, as they by their chairman may require, and which he can ſupply.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Morris*,

Reſolved, That fifteen hundred copies of the laws, and twelve hundred copies of the minutes, be printed for the current year.

It was then moved by Mr. *Will*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*,

That four hundred copies of the minutes, part of the twelve hundred copies, be printed in the *German* language.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs, made report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of the militia* "*of the commonweath of* Pennſylvania," read in the late Houſe *March* 16th laſt, be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled, "*A Supplement to the Poor Laws of this* "*commmonwealth*," read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *December* 26th laſt, be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the ſtates of* Mary- "land *and* Virginia *to lay out and improve a road within the limits of this com-* "*monwealth, between the waters of the river* Potowmack *and of the river* "Ohio," be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *October* 30, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Michael Billmeyer* was read, praying to be re-appointed Printer of the Minutes, *&c.* in the *German* language, on the ſame terms on which he performed that ſervice laſt year.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John M'Dowell*, in behalf of and by the direction of the elders and congregation of the Preſbyterian meeting of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying the ſaid congregation may be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, read *October* 28th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the letter from the Board of Treaſury of the United States, of the twenty-fifth of *September* laſt, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to inſpect the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs: Whereupon

Ordered, That the report read *September* 27th laſt, on the memorial of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Beale* and Mr. *C. Moore*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee appointed to confer with the Honorable Mr. *King* and Mr. *Monroe*, read *September* 21ſt laſt, be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, read *Auguſt* 26th laſt, which relates to the " Act, entituled " *An Act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the " late war have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, " or of the United States,*" be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from *Joſeph Stiles,* read *September* 8th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Hiltzheimer* and Mr. *Logan*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the act of Congreſs of the ſecond day of *Auguſt* laſt, containing their requiſitions for the preſent year, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, October 31, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Harman Courter, James Naglee, Andrew Gootee, William Ritchie, Elias Roſa, Edward Dickinſon, John Harmar, James Gamble, Iſaac Wynn, George Knox, Nicholas Brum, Philip Buckius, Antonio Baiſlide, Charles Brown, William Cazman, Adam Elberger* and *Cato Hill,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Robert Smith* was read, praying to be appointed printer of the laws and bills to be printed for public conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, ſetting forth, that the act which impoſes an additional tax upon carriages, for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue from articles of luxury and extravagance, doth not anſwer the good purpoſes intended by the legiſlature, and praying the ſame act may be amended, in ſuch manner as to diſcriminate between carriages uſed merely for the convenience of families, and thoſe which, from their profuſe expence, may with propriety be deemed articles of luxury.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Arthur St. Clair, Charles Pettit, William Irvine, Samuel Meredith* and *William Bingham,* Eſquires, were duly elected.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 1, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 868 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, praying the ſeat of Juſtice may be removed from *Harriſburg* to a more central part of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Stewart* was read, praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Luzerne.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Daniel Humphreys* and *Carey* and *Spotſwood* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed to print the bills and laws in their reſpective news-papers; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* to report thereon.

Petitions from *Thomas Bradford* and *Robert Smith* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed printers of the bills for public conſideration, and the laws which may be enacted by this Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Melchior Steiner* was read, praying to be appointed printer of the minutes and bills in the *German* language.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *G. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas conſiderable profeſſional ſkill is frequently required to draught and prepare bills propoſed to be paſſed into laws: Therefore,

Reſolved, That this Houſe will, on *Wedneſday* next, elect a perſon of legal abilities to attend the committees of the Houſe, when ſo required by them, as their aſſiſtant in draughting and preparing any bills which they may be directed to report.

The order of the day was called for and read, and

On motion, The ſeveral petitions and propoſitions of the printers were read the ſecond time.

The Houſe then proceeded to the election of a printer of the minutes in the *Engliſh* language, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Hall* and *Sellers* were duly elected.

The Houſe then elected *Michael Billmeyer* printer of the minutes and bills of this Houſe, which are to be publiſhed in the *German* language: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Ordered, That the reſidue of the order of the day, *viz.* the appointment of a printer of the bills and laws in the *Engliſh* language, be poſtponed until the report of the committee on the petitions from the different printers be made.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *C. Moore,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Heiſter,* Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee, to examine the annual expenditures of the civil liſt, and report a plan for leſſening the expences of government.

The letter from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon,* Eſquire, read *October* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Dale,* to report thereon.

A memorial from *Samuel Preſton* was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of opening a canal from the north-eaſt branch of the *Suſquehanna* to the *Mohawk* branch of *Delaware,* a diſtance not exceeding ſeven miles; that the turning ſaid branch in the *Delaware* would ſupply it with a ſufficiency of water to render it navigable at all ſeaſons of the year, whereby the trade of the ſtates of *New-York* and *New-Jerſey* would be diverted and brought to the city of *Philadelphia*; and praying he may be appointed to make an accurate ſurvey of thoſe rivers, and to take an exact level of the waters, and height of ground between them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, read *October* 28th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *D. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Morris*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Luzerne*.

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer* be a committee, to draught and report Inſtructions to the Delegates appointed to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Treaſurer of this ſtate.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Peter Zachary Lloyd*, Eſquire, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds*, to enable him to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, he to account therefor with the Comptroller-General.

The committee appointed *October* 30th, on the report and memorial of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 2, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of Repreſentatives to ſerve in Aſſembly for the county of *Bedford* was read; alſo a petition from a number of the inhabitants of the ſecond diſtrict for elections in the ſaid county, complaining of and remonſtrating againſt the conduct of the judges for the other diſtricts in not accepting their return; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid return and petition were read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, to make report thereon.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, by which it appeared that *William Findley*, *James Barr* and *Hugh H. Brackenridge*, Eſquires, were duly returned as Repreſentatives for the ſaid county, for the enſuing year.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Fayette* was read, by which it appeared that *Theophilus Philips* and *John Gilcreeſt*, Eſquires, were duly returned as Repreſentatives for the ſaid county, for the enſuing year.

James Hockley, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Montgomery*; *James Barr*, Eſquire, for the county of *Weſtmoreland*; and *John Gilcreeſt*, Eſquire, for the county of *Fayette*; appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *James M‘Cutcheon* and *Alexander Philips*, creditors of *Charles Brown* and *John Knox*, was read, containing their objections againſt the liberation of ſaid *Brown* and *Knox*, and incloſing a corroboratory certificate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to make report thereon.

A petition from *John Camm*, in behalf of himſelf and others, non-commiſſioned officers and privates, late belonging to the ſtate navy, was read, referring to their memorial read *December* 5th laſt, in the late Houſe of Aſſembly, praying for the depreciation due on their pay.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, inveſting him with an excluſive right to navigate veſſels propelled by the force of ſteam within the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, for a certain term of years.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſhua Barney*, late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, praying a grant of his commutation may be made him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to report an arrangement of the propoſals contained in the petitions from the ſeveral printers, made their report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 30th laſt, to report on the petition of *Joſeph Stiles*, made their report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe then proceeded to the election of a printer for publiſhing the bills ordered to be printed for conſideration, and the laws that may be enacted, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Thomas Bradford* was duly elected.

The petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter*, read *October* 30th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Samuel Preſton*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *C. Moore*, to make report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *November* 3, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin* were read, praying certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate may be received in payment for the principal and intereſt due on their unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Cornelius Daily*, *Joſeph Tomlinſon*, *George Willard* and *William Plumly*, confined in the gaol of the county of *Bucks*, for fines incurred under the militia laws of this ſtate, was read, praying they may be releaſed from further confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Bray*, late a ſerjeant in the *Pennſylvania* regiment of artillery, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath not received the full amount of pay due to him for his ſervice, and praying this houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Fiſher* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed by the Council of Safety and the Navy Board, in *September*, 1775, and ſtationed at *Lewis-town*, near *Cape-Henlopen*, in order to forward to them advices by land or water of the arrival of the veſſels of war of the enemy; that he continued in that employ five years and five months, and expended conſiderable ſums of money during that period for the public ſervice, as well as rendered his own perſonal ſervices, for which he hath not received a full and adequate compenſation; therefore praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

William Findley, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read *October* 31ſt, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hockley* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Reſolved, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Smith*, be a committee, to lay before this Houſe a plan for repairing and ſupporting the public roads within this ſtate.

The petition from the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of *Chriſt-Church* and St. *Peter's*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *October* 27th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *J. Heiſter*, to report thereon.

The committee, appointed to confer with Council, reſpecting the time and place for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, reported, that Council recommend that eleven o'clock to-morrow in the forenoon be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, in the Aſſembly Chamber, and propoſe the following order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.

Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.

High-Sheriff and Coroner, with their wands.

Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.

Attorney-General, and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

Marſhal of the Admiralty.

Judge and Regiſter of the Admiralty.

Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia*.
Collector of the Cuſtoms and Naval-Officer.
Treaſurer and Comptroller-General.
Secretary of the Land Office.
Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and
Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.
Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls and Regiſter of Wills.
Secretary of Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms, with the Mace.
Clerk and Aſſiſtant-Clerk of the General Aſſembly.
Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.
Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.
Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.
Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That the Houſe approve of the time, place and order of proceſſion, as above mentioned, and that the ſame committee inform Council thereof.

After ſome time the ſaid committee reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would concur in ſaid election.

The committee appointed *October* 27th, to inſpect the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs, made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Seventh-day Baptiſts, reſiding within the townſhips of *Eaſt* and *Weſt Nantmill,* and parts adjacent, in the county of *Cheſter,* read in the late Houſe *February* 28th laſt, be granted.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Miniſter, Truſtees, Elders and Church-Wardens of the congregation of the *German* Lutheran church in the borough of *Lancaſter,* read *Auguſt* 30th laſt, be granted.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the coopers and packers of ſhad and herring for exportation from this ſtate, read *April* 6th laſt, be granted.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition of the Miniſter, Wardens and Veſtrymen of the united Proteſtant Epiſcopal churches of *Trinity* church in *Oxford,* and *All-Saints* church in *Lower Dublin* townſhips, in the county of *Phila-*

Philadelphia, and St. *Thomas*'s church in *Whitemarſh* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 18th laſt, be granted.

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petition from the inhabitants of the town of *York*, in the county of *York*, read *February* 28th laſt, be granted.

The report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *September* 26th laſt, on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Bedford*, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The commitee appointed yeſterday, on the returns and petitions reſpecting the late election of repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the *Bedford* county election report——

That in their opinion the ſingle return from the ſecond diſtrict of that county ought not to be rejected, notwithſtanding it was not offered in the proper time to comprehend it in the general return; the election in ſaid diſtrict, from any thing appearing to the contrary, being regularly held, the penalty ſhould fall upon the officer through whoſe means it happened, and not operate to the prejudice of the election:—That the returns from the other five diſtricts in ſaid county, ſetting forth the ſtate of the election with reſpect to three perſons, *to wit*, Mr. *John Piper*, Mr. *John Canon* and Mr. *Abraham Cable*, entirely omit the votes of other candidates, if any there were: That the number of votes for Mr. *Joſeph Powell*, taken in the ſecond diſtrict, added to the higheſt poſſible number he could have had in the five diſtricts, would give a ſtate of the election collectively with reſpect to theſe four gentlemen, three of whom muſt inevitably be the ſitting members; but as Mr. *Canon* has a greater number of votes than Mr. *Cable*, he muſt of courſe be one of the three, the doubt remaining only as to Mr. *Powell* and Mr. *Cable*, no queſtion being made as to the right of Mr. *Piper*.

Your committee therefore, from this mode of reaſoning, offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That *John Piper* and *John Canon*, Eſquires, be admitted to their ſeats in this Houſe, as repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*.

But as the Houſe can have no means of deciding between the pretenſions of Mr. *Powell* and Mr. *Cable*, without being poſſeſſed of the number of votes taken for each of all the candidates in the ſaid five diſtricts, the committee offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to ſend for all the documents neceſſary to aſcertain the ſtate of the election in the ſaid five diſtricts, with reſpect to all the candidates at ſaid election: Whereupon

The ſaid *John Piper* and *John Canon*, Eſquires, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified agreeably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An*

"*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran Congregation in and near the* "*borough of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 4, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

David Mitchel, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Cumberland*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Lancaſter*, and others reſiding on the eaſt ſide of that part of *Coneſtogoe* creek, where the great road leading from the ſaid borough to the city of *Philadelphia* croſſes the ſame, were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing a ferry*, "*and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," publiſhed by the late Houſe of Aſſembly, may be paſſed into a law, agreeably to certain amendments in ſaid petitions expreſſed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the better and more effectual relief of the poor within the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Joſeph Powel* was read, praying that ſubpœnas may be iſſued, requiring the attendance of the ſeveral witneſſes to appear at the bar of the Houſe, reſpecting the late election of repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Chriſtian Piercy* and others was read, prayingto be allowed payment for apprentices and ſervants enliſted in the armies of the United States, during the late war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Alliſon* and others was read, of a ſimilar tenor with their petition read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *April* 1ſt laſt, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers non-reſident owners and purchaſers of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Memorial of the Subſcribers, in behalf of themſelves and others, Non-Reſident *Owners and Purchaſers of Lands in the Frontier Counties and Settlements of this State,*

SHEWETH,

THAT having attended to the late advertiſements of the ſale of lands for the public taxes in ſome of the ſaid counties, particularly the counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland* and *Weſtmoreland*, we are ſeriouſly alarmed, as well on account of our *private* property, as of the *public* funds and revenues of the *ſtate*, when we look forward to the ruinous and oppreſſive conſequences which muſt enſue upon the preſent mode of *aſſeſſing* and *compelling* the payment of taxes in thoſe counties; and we beg leave to call for the immediate attention of your honorable Houſe, for the purpoſe of providing ſome ſpeedy and effectual remedy of the intolerable grievances, ſo generally felt and complained of, in the following reſpects eſpecially, *viz.*

1ſt. The advertiſements in general (as will appear from the copies hereunto annexed) convey no deſcriptive certainty, whereby the diſtant owners of lands can know either the *quantity* or *quality* of the lands they are charged with, nor for what term of years paſt, nor whether the payment of the taxes as now advertiſed will prove a *final ſettlement* down to the preſent period, or not: But, on the contrary it appears,——

2d. *That* the aſſeſſments are generally made without *any view* of the lands by the aſſeſſors, or any regard to their value, as the law requires; that the accounts of the lands of *non-reſidents*, good and bad, are obtained by the aſſeſſors or commiſſioners from the ſurveyors of diſtricts, either according to the quantity expreſſed in the locations, warrants or returns of ſurvey, without any regard to quality or ſituation, and charged indiſcriminately, the good and the bad lands alike, without ever having been ſeen or explored by any other perſons perhaps than thoſe concerned in the ſurveys; and the aſſeſſment laid upon them generally *equal to*, or *higher*, than the beſt lands of the *reſident* owners. It appears further, if we be not miſtaken in the number of years for which the aſſeſſments are charged in ſome counties, which are already very populous, that the tax of the *non-reſidents alone* exceeds the whole yearly quota of the funding tax in ſuch county; and there is ſtill a *reſerve*, that if it ſhould appear afterwards that any part of the tax of non-reſidents has been omitted, it is ſtill to be charged and added to the former taxes; ſo that no owner can have a certainty, when the amount of any paſt years taxes can be cloſed.

3d. Under all this uncertainty and partiality in the mode of aſſeſſment, the lands are advertiſed to be ſold for the taxes, at the moſt inclement ſeaſon of the year, *viz.* the middle of *December* and *January*, when it will not be practicable for the non-reſident owners of lands in theſe diſtant counties to attend, and when probably no perſons can be found to bid for the lands, but a few ſpeculators in or near the place of ſale, who could not be able to pay for an hundredth part of the immenſe taxes charged on theſe lands, and when, if any perſons ſhould come from diſtant parts to purchaſe any of the lands, they could not view the lands expoſed to ſale, nor know their value, becauſe they lie diſperſed over the whole counties from ten to fifty miles diſtance, and may be ſo covered with froſt and ſnow, that, if they could be viewed, or ſold on the ſpot, it would be difficult to judge of their value.

4th. That the unavoidable conſequence of ſuch ſales would be the changing the preſent property of the lands from thoſe *non-reſident owners*, who have purchaſed and paid former taxes to a great amount, and who are both able and deſirous to pay their preſent and future taxes upon an equitable mode; while, in their room, the property will be *transferred* to perſons, who may purchaſe whole tracts for leſs than the amount of one year's aſſeſſment, or the firſt purchaſe from the ſtate; by which means the ſtate will be defrauded of the payment of a great part of the taxes already due, and the new purchaſers found unable to pay any future taxes, and the land be thus liable to be ſold from year to year for thoſe taxes, which the preſent owners can and will pay on an equitable footing.

5th. That the privilege offered in the advertiſements of ſettling with the ſtate treaſurer in *Philadelphia* would be of great advantage both to the ſtate and to the *non-reſident owners* of lands, ſo far as it would enable them to pay their taxes without the riſque and trouble of ſending their money to the townſhip collectors in diſtant counties, and without any riſque to the ſtate of having the public monies embezzled by any of ſaid collectors, or being robbed of the ſame, or any other riſque in the monies being ſent back again to the ſtate treaſurer; yet all the good effects of this ſalutary proviſion are in a great meaſure defeated, becauſe the ſtate treaſurer hath it not in his power to give any redreſs where the aſſeſſments are not made according to law; and there is no alternative to the non-reſidents, but to pay according to the aſſeſſments of their lands in the aforeſaid arbitrary and unjuſt manner, or to take journies of ſome hundred miles in the depth of winter, and on a few weeks notice, for the purpoſe of an *appeal* to the county commiſſioners, or have their lands, for which they have long paid taxes, and alſo the purchaſe money and ſurveyors fees, *ſold* perhaps at a hundredth part of the real value.

6th. That this unequal and unjuſt mode of aſſeſſing and levying the taxes upon *non-reſident* owners of lands appears already to have a moſt fatal operation upon the *public funds* of the ſtate, and the value of all the public property: Becauſe, although there was lately a conſiderable deſire and diſpoſition among the *monied intereſt* of the ſtate, eſpecially in and near the metropolis, to *purchaſe* the lands appropriated to the payment of public creditors and other ſtate purpoſes, yet the preſent *unequal* and *arbitrary* mode of taxation and compelling payment greatly diſcourages the purchaſing of the lands already ſurveyed by the ſtate, as well as the taking up of vacant lands; ſince it is apparent to thoſe who have money to lay out in this way, that they may expect to purchaſe the beſt lands in the old ſurveys, at the public ſales for taxes, at a *much eaſier rate* than they could take up new lands, even of the worſt quality and in the moſt remote ſituations; and that they will derive a compleat title to the lands ſo purchaſed from the ſales of the commiſſioners of taxes, without any expence of ſurveying fees, paſt taxes, or the purchaſe money due to the ſtate.

Your Memorialiſts therefore pray——That the ſales of the lands advertiſed as aforeſaid for the payment of taxes, and to be held during the ſeverity of the enſuing winter ſeaſon, may be *ſuſpended* at leaſt till the *month of May* next; in order to give the non-reſident owners of the lands a reaſonable opportunity and time for rectifying miſtakes in their aſſeſſments, and paying up their arrears according to the laws now in force; and that in the mean time the honorable Houſe of Aſſembly will, in their great wiſdom and juſtice, deviſe the proper means of remedying in future the grievances complained of in the preſent mode of *aſſeſſing* and *levying* the *public taxes*, and that your Memorialiſts may have an opportunity, if neceſſary, of ſupporting the allegations contained in this *Memorial* before your honorable Houſe, or ſuch committee thereof as may be appointed to take the ſame into their conſideration.

And, as bound, we ſhall pray, *&c.*

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley,* to make report thereon.

The petition of *Henry Fiſher*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of *Chriſt-Church* and St. *Peter*'s, in the city of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly-Chamber, conformably to the reſolution of yeſterday, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, purſuant to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, and elected, by ballot, his Excellency BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable CHARLES BIDDLE, Eſquire, Vice-Preſident, for the enſuing year; and the members of Council and General Aſſembly having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then, in the order of proceſſion, attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the Court-houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*, and having returned to the Aſſembly Chamber,

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 6, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *William Bingham*, Eſquire, one of the Delegates appointed to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, was read, notifying his acceptance of the ſaid appointment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that the road through the mountains, between *Sunbury* and *Minick*'s ſaw-mill on *Schuylkill*, is rendered impaſſable by the late heavy falls of rain; and praying this Houſe to grant a ſum of money for the purpoſe of repairing the ſaid road.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and memorial from *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox*, in behalf of themſelves and *John Anderſon*, was read, ſetting forth, that on the ninth day of *January*, 1775, warrants were obtained for ten tracts of land of three hundred acres each, and the full conſideration money paid to the Receiver-General of the late Proprietaries; that the late war commencing ſoon after, further proceedings in the buſineſs were unavoidably ſuſpended; that upon application to the Surveyor of the diſtrict, they were informed that the Surveyor did not think himſelf fully juſtified in ſurveying thoſe lands without further authority, as he conceived them to be without the limits of the former *Indian* purchaſe; therefore praying this Houſe to direct the Surveyor-General to receive a return of ſurveys for the ſaid lands, in order that patents may iſſue to them for the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* New-London, *in* "*the county of* Cheſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the congregation of Seventh-day Baptiſts reſiding within* "*the townſhips of* Eaſt-Nantmill, Weſt-Nantmill *and* Coventry, *and places* "*adjacent, in the county of* Cheſter" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in the county* "*of* York, *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and* "*encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame,* "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *C. Moore*,

Reſolved, That the Clerk be directed to furniſh the printer with fair copies of the bills ordered to be printed for public conſideration, and the laws which may be enacted by this Houſe.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 7, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Charles Pettit*, Eſquire, elected a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, notifying his acceptance of the ſaid appointment, was read.

A letter from the Honorable *Samuel Meredith*, Eſquire, elected a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing, was read.

A memorial from *James Murray*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *December* 15th laſt, was called for, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia*, the townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties* and the diſtrict of *Southwark*, was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of paſſing one general act, compriſing a compleat ſyſtem of law relating to the Poor, and that therein the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and the Overſeers of the Poor may be united into one body, or otherwiſe the corporation of Overſeers totally aboliſhed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Logan*,

Ordered, That the ſame, together with all the papers now on the files of the General Aſſembly relative to the Poor, be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Clark*, with inſtructions to report a bill for the general regulation of the Poor throughout this ſtate, if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from *George Baylor* was read, ſetting forth, that he attended as a witneſs relative to the late conteſted election of repreſentatives for the county of f *Lancaſter*, and that he has not received a compenſation for his time and rouble in ſo attending; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kurtz* was read, ſtating certain grievances, and raying this Houſe to grant her relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Camm*, in behalf of himſelf and others, read *November* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Whelen* and Mr. *Clark*, to eport thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants living in the borough of *Lancaſter*, and n the eaſt ſide of that part of *Coneſtogoe* creek where the great road from the ſaid borough croſſes the ſame, read *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Findley*, to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, read *November* 3d, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Roſs* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the better ſecuring eſcheats to the commonwealth.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *D. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *J. Heiſter*,

For a general regulation of the laws reſpecting the navigation and fiſheries in the rivers *Delaware*, *Suſquehanna*, *Schuylkill*, *Lehigh* and *Juniata*; and after ſome debate,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the county of *Luzerne*, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Timothy Pickering*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, to draught Inſtructions to the Delegates appointed to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the United Epiſcopal Churches of* Trinity *Church* "*in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All-Saints *Church in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in* "Philadelphia *county, and St.* Thomas's *Church in* Whitemarſh *townſhip, in* "Montgomery *county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 8, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Gabriel Heiſter, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A petition from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of erecting and keeping in repair a number of pumps, and for regulating, laying and poſting the gutters or water-courſes in the ſaid diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Londonderry* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for incorporating the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks* were read, ſetting forth, that a communication between the ſettlements in the ſaid county below the *Blue Mountains* and thoſe beyond, and with the ſettlements in the county of *Northumberland*, is eſſential to the thriving and welfare of thoſe ſettlements, and of that county; that they have by ſubſcriptions raiſed conſiderable ſums of money, and made conſiderable repairs on the road leading to the county of *Northumberland*; that the late remarkable freſh has rendered the ſame of no uſe; that the petitioners are unable to execute the repairs of the ſaid road; therefore praying a ſum of money may be granted them for that purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Chambers* was read, ſetting forth, that his ſon, *John Chambers*, a ſoldier in the flying camp, under the command of Captain *William Hay*, was taken priſoner at the battle on *Long-Iſland*, and continued ſuch until his death; and praying he may be allowed a compenſation for his ſaid ſon's ſervices.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Baltzer Meyerly* and *Nicholas Sherer*, of the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*, was read, together with certain papers therewith tranſmitted, ſetting forth, that during the winter ſeaſon of 1781 and 1782 a number of ſoldiers, raiſed for the defence of the frontiers of this ſtate, were billetted in empty houſes of the petitioners, and that through the wantonneſs of the ſoldiers, or neglect of the officers, ſaid houſes were conſiderably damaged; and praying this Houſe to grant them a compenſation for ſaid loſſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers priſoners, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from further confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

The memorial of *James Murray*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

The petition of *William Alliſon* and others, read *November* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Robinſon*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Morris*,

Reſolved, That this Houſe will make ſuitable compenſation to the Officer, who ſhall be appointed to aſſiſt their committees in draughting bills.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a perſon to attend the committees of the Houſe, as their Aſſiſtant in draughting bills which they may be directed to report, when, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *John Coxe*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

Mr. *G. Clymer* verbally reported, on behalf of the committee to whom were referred the papers relative to the late election for the county of *Bedford*, that they deemed it not neceſſary to report on the letter from *Joſeph Powell*.

Whereupon a motion was made by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smith*, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker order *John Ceſſna*, *Uriah Blue*, *Andrew Mann* and *William Alexander*, to attend at the bar of this Houſe on the twenty-ſeventh inſtant, to anſwer ſuch queſtions as ſhall then and there be aſked them, or either of them, reſpecting the late general election held in the county of *Bedford*, for members to repreſent the ſaid county in this General Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smith*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Whitehill*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Philip Kreemer*,
7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *David Davis*,
9 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
10 *Robert Brown*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

13 *Frederick Antes*,
14 *Samuel Dale*,
15 *William Findley*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John Gilchreeſt*,
19 *Abraham Smith*,
20 *James M'Calmont*,
21 *Robert Clark*,
22 *Jacob Miley*,
23 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *George Clymer*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *George Logan*,
6 *Samuel Foulke*,
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Valentine Upp*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Richard Willing*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,

NAYS.

15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Samuel J. Atlee*,
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *George Roſs*,
21 *David M'Conaughy*,
22 *David M'Clellan*,
23 *Joſeph Lilley*,
24 *Adam Eichelberger*,
25 *Daniel Clymer*,
26 *John Canon*,
27 *Charles Moore*,
28 *Samuel Wheeler*.

So it was carried in the negative.

DISSENTIENT,

BECAUSE the committee, to whom Mr. *Powell*'s letter to the Speaker was referred, deſiring to have witneſſes called to the bar of this Houſe, to ſupport the charge expreſly made by the petitioners againſt the officers of the firſt election diſtrict of *Bedford* county, that they ſet aſide divers honeſt votes which had been received by the inſpectors, has not made report thereon, ſo as to bring Mr. *Powell*'s requeſt before the Houſe, or to afford room for any queſtion thereon. The reaſon given by the chairman for the little notice taken of this letter by the committee, " that Mr. *Powell* offered no proofs of the charge" of an abuſe which happened near two hundred miles from the ſeat of government, to us appears unprecedented and not founded, when Mr. *Powell* was ſoliciting for ſubpœnas to cite witneſſes for the purpoſe. We have no idea that any proof of this complaint can be entered into till the day appointed for hearing and trial of the merits.

Becauſe the petitioners againſt the return before this Houſe, of the laſt election of repreſentatives for *Bedford* county, have ſet forth, that the judges of five of the diſtricts of the ſame county, who were met at *Bedford* town for the purpoſe of framing and making a general return of the ſaid election, refuſed to receive the return of the ſecond diſtrict, and to incorporate the votes there taken with thoſe of the reſt of the county; and that this refuſal was perſiſted in after the certificate of the ſecond diſtrict was opened, and the contents thereof known to the judges of the other diſtricts, and before the ſeparate return which they have ſince made to this Houſe was finiſhed, on pretence that the judge of the ſecond diſtrict, who was ſent with the ſame, did not produce the return of his diſtrict till the third day after the day of holding the election; thus taking advantage of a departure from form, which, if it aroſe from the judge's neglect, he is puniſhable, ſo ſubſtantially to wound the moſt precious and important privileges of the people. We conſider a refuſal of this kind (circumſtanced as this refuſal was) as a moſt wanton and dangerous infringement of the rights of the freemen of *Bedford* county, demanding a ſtrict and rigorous enquiry, and, if the charge be founded, of the public notice and cenſure, which is at once the higheſt puniſhment, and the ſevereſt check on ſuch abuſes. The means of this inveſtigation, notice and cenſure, cannot, it is manifeſt, be attained by barely ordering down, as this Houſe has done, the diſtrict returns not already before the Houſe, and the election papers and documents of the ſix diſtricts within the county.

Becauſe that when ſo wanton and enormous an abuſe as this, of excluding on frivolous pretences the votes of a whole diſtrict within a county, is alledged againſt officers who are bound, as well by duty to themſelves and the public, as by ſolemn oath, to watch over the ſacred rights of the community, there is reaſon to ſuſpect, that if the charge made as beforeſaid againſt them by the petitioners be founded, they may alſo ſophiſticate the returns ordered by the Houſe, in order to cover their firſt offence, unleſs witneſſes be called for, to manifeſt the real ſtate of the ſeveral diſtrict elections.

Becauſe the petitioners have alledged that ſundry tickets taken at the firſt diſtrict election of *Bedford* county were afterwards rejected, the reaſon aſſigned for which was, that theſe votes for repreſentatives and officers were not ſeparated as the law directs. It is a ſettled rule, that all general elections are to be judged of on the merits, and not on matters of form: For if forms were deemed eſſential, deſigning men, void of principle, who ſometimes inſinuate themſelves among the officers of election, would be tempted to contrive irregularities ſufficient to ſet aſide the moſt honeſt election. Had the inſpectors refuſed thoſe tickets on taking the poll, till the freemen who offered them ſhould conform to the rule, we might have conſidered their conduct as juſtifiable; but after ſuch tickets were received, perhaps of ignorant men, certainly they ought to be counted as good votes. This ſeparating of the tickets we look on as enjoined by the election law for convenience merely. No vote ought to be ſuppreſſed, unleſs the act of Aſſembly clearly and expreſſly authoriſes ſuch ſuppreſſion, and this is not done in the caſe in view; nor except where irregularity affecting the merits, or fraud, intervene. Surely, then, witneſſes for this purpoſe ought to be called, eſpecially when petitions from conſiderably more than fifty freemen of the county are on our table, who complain of the abuſe in queſtion, and pray for redreſs, and when Mr. *Powell*, who it is ſuppoſed is the proper repreſentative of the county, and not Mr. *Cable*, as the return of the five diſtricts purports, has, in his letter to the Speaker, ſaid, " that, in order to ſupport theſe complaints" (of the petitioners) " as " well as to clear up ſome other matters connected with the merits of the late " election for the county of *Bedford*, he ſhould be glad to have witneſſes called to the bar of this Houſe."

Becauſe we conſider the iſſuing of ſubpœnas for witneſſes to prove abuſes or frauds at general elections as a matter of right. In controverſies before the courts of juſtice, where forms are much regarded, the Clerks of the courts iſſue them of courſe. And when we conſider that the late election law has provided, that unleſs fifty qualified electors of the proper county complain of undue return or undue election, and unleſs the witneſſes ſummoned give material teſtimony, the perſon or perſons who call for ſuch witneſſes ſhall himſelf or themſelves anſwer the coſts and charges thereby incurred, but if the officers of the election be to blame, they ſhall defray theſe expences, all objection to the requeſt of Mr. *Powell* vaniſhes. If the election documents be neceſſary to one branch of the complaint, witneſſes ſeem as neceſſary to the other. We are therefore decided, that the Houſe ought of common juſtice to have granted the ſubpœnas requeſted. We lament this refuſal, as a denial of right and juſtice; and by this entry on the Minutes, we endeavour to leſſen the miſchiefs to which ſuch an unhappy precedent might otherwiſe give birth.

Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchel,
David Davis,
Alexander Wright,
John Piper,
Samuel Dale,
Abraham Smith,
Frederick Antes,
William Findley,
Philip Kreemer,
Gabriel Heiſter,
James Barr,
Robert Clark.

The report of the committee appointed to draught inſtructions to the Delegates in Congreſs, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

In ASSEMBLY, *November* 8, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

THE General Aſſembly, in their choice of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs, had in contemplation not only the abilities and talents of the candidates, but alſo their reſpective diſpoſitions to make aſſiduous application of thoſe talents in the ſervice of their country. It is therefore expected by your conſtituents, that this ſtate ſhall be conſtantly repreſented in the Congreſs of the United States by at leaſt three members of the preſent delegation, leaving to yourſelves to fix the rotation of attendance. Perſuaded that fœderal meaſures and the fœderal intereſt will be the principal objects of your attention and purſuit, the Houſe wiſh only to remind you that the intereſt of the ſtate, ſhould it happen to come in competition with the general intereſt, ſhould only give way ſo far and in ſuch proportion as the other ſtates ſubmit to, and no farther. Confiding in your zeal to promote the general welfare, it does not appear neceſſary to inſtruct you on any particular points at preſent."

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, appointed to bring forward the unfiniſhed buſineſs: Whereupon

Ordered, That the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Bedford* be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Canon*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the congregation of Seventh-day Baptiſts reſiding within the townſhips of* Eaſt-Nantmill, Weſt-Nantmill *and* Coventry, *and places adjacent, in the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 9, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Theophilus Philips, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Fayette,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified agreeably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A memorial from the Society for promoting Agriculture, eſtabliſhed in the city of *Philadelphia,* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of the Society for promoting Agriculture, eſtabliſhed at Philadelphia,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT a model for a permanent bridge to be erected acroſs the river *Schuylkill,* at the weſtern extremity of *High-ſtreet,* together with an eſtimate of the expence neceſſary to compleat the ſame, has been laid before the Society; that the plan of the ſaid bridge appears to be altogether practicable, and the expence attending the execution of it within the abilities of the ſtate, without becoming burthenſome to the ſame.

The Society forbear to intrude upon the time of the honorable Houſe, by any obſervations upon the conveniency and utility of ſuch a bridge to the public in general, as they think both theſe are apparent.

The reſpectful requeſt of the Society is, that the honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to appoint a committee to view the model and conſider the eſtimate, and if the erection of ſuch a bridge ſhall appear to be practicable and expedient, that ſuch a charter of incorporation may be granted to thoſe perſons who may be willing to become ſubſcribers to the undertaking, as to the honorable Houſe may appear moſt likely to facilitate the ſame.

Signed, by order of the Society,

Philad. Nov. 8, 1786. SAMUEL POWEL, Preſident.

A petition from *James Montgomery*, late a Captain in the ſervice of this ſtate, was read, ſtating his claims to pay, and alſo to depreciation on the ſame; therefore praying to be put on a footing with the officers of the late *Pennſylvania* line and ſtate navy.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Tyler*, late armourer of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he acted in that department, by appointment from the Board of War in *April* 1777, for upwards of two years, during which time he advanced conſiderable ſums of money for the uſe of his department, and for which, as well as his own perſonal ſervices, he hath not received adequate compenſation; therefore praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *George Baylor*, read *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

A petition from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Leacock* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Lancaſter*, *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, were read, praying that certificates for debts due from the United States to the citizens of this ſtate may be received in payment for the arrearages due on their unpatented lands; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Roſs* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Baltzer Meyerly* and *Nicholas Sherer*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Heiſter*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Smith*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Southwark*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Cornelius Daily* and others, read *November* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Beale*, to report thereon.

The petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Londonderry* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

On motion of Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wheeler*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to procure two thouſand copies of the conſtitution of this commonwealth, agreeably to the original inſtrument thereof, to be printed for the uſe of the ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *G. Heiſter* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

A petition from the Coach-makers, and others employed in the ſeveral branches of making coaches, chariots and other pleaſurable carriages, in *Germantown*, was read, ſtating, that the act for laying a tax upon pleaſurable carriages has greatly diſtreſſed them in the carrying on the aforeſaid buſineſs, and praying the ſaid tax, or a part thereof, may be diſcontinued; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hockley* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 4th, on the petition of the Rector, Church-wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of *Chriſt-Church* and St. *Peter*'s, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of their petition, they giving ſix weeks notice thereof in one or more of the news-papers of the city of *Philadelphia*.

The report of the committee, read *November* 1ſt, on the memorial of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for exonerating the Managers and Contributors of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital from the payment of a ſum of money advanced to them in the year 1780, by the Aſſembly of this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Beale* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 9th, on the letter from *Joſeph Stiles*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *November* 4th, on the petition of the non-reſident owners of lands in the frontier counties of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the United Epiſcopal Churches* "*of* Trinity *Church in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All-Saints *Church in* Lower-" Dublin *townſhip, in* Philadelphia *county, and St.* Thomas*'s Church in* White-" marſh *townſhip, in* Montgomery *county*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation* "*of*

" *of* New-London, *in the county of* Cheſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 10, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Thomas Harriſon* and *Deniſon Hume,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, praying to be releaſed from further confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

A memorial and petition from *Samuel Dellap* was read, praying that the act, entituled " *An Act for regulating public vendues,*" ſo far as the ſame reſtrains or limits the free ſale of books, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *John Tyler,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Trexler,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Thomas Houſton,* late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed a Captain of one of the gallies in the ſaid navy, and continued in that ſervice until he was appointed by the Supreme Executive Council to the command of the armed brigantine *Convention,* in the ſervice and for the protection of this ſtate; that this commiſſion was to continue until revoked; that ſome time afterwards the ſaid brigantine was ſold, and his commiſſion not revoked, he conceives himſelf entitled to all the benefits and emoluments granted to the officers of equal rank of the ſaid ſtate navy; therefore prays this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 2d laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the members of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Leacock* townſhip, in the county of *Lancaſter,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox,* in behalf of themſelves and others, read *November* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley,* to report thereon.

The petition of 868 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* read *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Wheelen,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the memorial of *James Murray,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Bedford*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of divers non-reſident owners of lands within the frontier counties of this ſtate, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on the petition of non-reſident owners and purchaſers of lands within the frontier counties and ſettlements of this ſtate, report——

That they have attended to the matters ſet forth in the ſaid memorial, and concur in opinion with the memorialiſts, that further time ſhould be allowed for appeals in their caſe; and to proceed to the ſales of the lands for non-payment of taxes in the winter months would be greatly injurious to the owners aforeſaid, as well as in its conſequences detrimental to the revenues and property of the ſtate.

The committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to allow of the appeals of non-reſident owners of lands within the counties of *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington*, *Fayette* and *Luzerne*, until the fifteenth day of *April* next, and to provide that no ſales of ſuch lands for non-payment of the taxes *impoſed* ſhall take place before the firſt day of *June* next.

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

To inſert, after the word "*impoſed*," the words "*in purſuance of the act*, "*entituled* "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of this ſtate, towards paying the* "*annual intereſt of the debts of the United States, and for funding and paying* "*the intereſt of the public debts of this ſtate*."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Dale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Whitehill*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *Robert Brown*,
5 *Peter Burkhalter*,
6 *John Piper*,
7 *Samuel Dale*,

YEAS.

8 *James Barr*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *Theophilus Philips*,
11 *John Gilchreeſt*,
12 *Abraham Smith*,
13 *James M'Calmont*,
14 *Robert Clark.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *John Salter*,

NAYS.

9 *Samuel Foulke*,
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Robert Ralſton*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,

NAYS.

17 *Richard Thomas,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Samuel J. Atlee,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Adam Hubley,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *George Roſs,*
24 *David M'Conaughy,*
25 *David M'Clellan,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Adam Eichelberger,*
28 *David Mitchell,*
29 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
30 *Philip Kreemer,*

NAYS.

31 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
32 *David Davis,*
33 *Daniel Clymer,*
34 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
35 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
36 *John Canon,*
37 *Frederick Antes,*
38 *William Findley,*
39 *Charles Moore,*
40 *Samuel Wheeler,*
41 *James Hockley,*
42 *Jacob Reiff,*
43 *Jacob Miley,*
44 *John Carſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And on the queſtion,—*Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing report?"*——
It was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 11, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

James Alliſon, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Harriſburg* to a more central part of ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whelen,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Joanna Young,* widow of the late Captain *John Young,* commander of the ſloop of war *Saratoga,* in the ſervice of the United States, was read, praying to be entitled to half pay, or a ſum of money equivalent thereto, together with the other emoluments receivable by a widow of an officer in the late *Pennſylvania* line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Reſolved, That it be a ſtanding order for this ſeſſion, that *Tueſday* in each week be aſſigned for calling on the different committees to make report.

The petition of *Elizabeth Kurtz,* read *November* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Northampton,* with the addition of Mr. *Upp,* to report thereon.

The petition of *David Chambers,* read *November* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *M‘Calmont,* to report thereon.

The petition of *John Fitch,* read *November* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *J. Moore,* Mr. *Roſs* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Canon,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Philips,* be added to the committee on ways and means.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *D. Clymer* have leave of abſence during the next week.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *J. Heiſter* have leave of abſence for a few days.

The memorial of the ſociety for promoting agriculture, read *November* 9th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *Cornelius Dailey* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *Jame* *Murray,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 13, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Hugh Henry Brackenridge, Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland,* and *John Flenniken,* Eſquire, elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington,* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A letter from the Honorable *Charles Pettit,* Eſquire, one of the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, with its incloſures, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *John Coxe,* Eſquire, appointed to aſſiſt the committees of this Houſe in draughting bills which they may be directed to report, was read informing the Houſe that he will uſe his beſt endeavours to execute the duties of his appointment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Vanderſlice,* late a ſerjeant in the *Pennſylvania* line was read, referring to his petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 19th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander M‘Dowell,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was called for, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Bridges* and others, citizens of this ſtate, was read ſetting forth, that whilſt the city of *Philadelphia* was poſſeſſed by the *Britiſh* during the late war, they contributed their money for promoting the general cauſe; and conceiving it immaterial whether it was loaned to Congreſs in the ſtate of *New-Jerſey* or *Pennſylvania*, they were induced to depoſit their monies in the Loan-Office of *New-Jerſey*; that notwithſtanding ſundry laws were paſſed in the ſtate of *New-Jerſey* for payment of intereſt on the public loans, no proviſion hath been made for them, they not being citizens of that ſtate; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 553 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* were read, ſtating divers grievances with reſpect to the exciſe laws, and the ſeveral acts for opening the Land-Office, alſo divers defects in the preſent mode of levying and collecting taxes, together with the extravagant fees of deputy ſurveyors of lands, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 280 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* were read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under, by reaſon of the ſeveral laws for opening the Land-Office, and praying the ſame may be amended, ſo far as to eſtabliſh the preference of actual and continued ſettlements (unleſs where the late war has interrupted them) to the office rights of a later date, and that a reaſonable time be given to the actual ſettlers to procure a legal title to lands held in right of occupancy.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, ſtating the inconveniences they labour under on account of their diſtant ſituation from the ſeat of juſtice within the ſaid county, and praying for a diviſion of the ſame, or that they may be annexed to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent, for a limited time, the ſales of lands for the payment of taxes within the frontier counties of this ſtate, belonging to non-reſident owners thereof, and to allow the ſaid owners a further day of appeal,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to direct and authoriſe the laying out of an highway through this ſtate, from the waters of the river* Potowmack *to the river* Ohio, *in order to extend and facilitate the intercourſe which is deſigned to be opened between the ſame,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of the townſhip of* Leacock, *in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 14, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Philip Jenkins*, collector of public taxes in *Springhill* townſhip, in the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read, and a depoſition therewith incloſed,

cloſed, ſetting forth, that on the night of the ſecond day of *June*, 1784, he was robbed, by three perſons to him unknown, of upwards of *twenty-one pounds*, by him collected in payment of taxes, and praying the ſaid ſum of money may be placed to his credit in the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette* were read, praying that ſo much of the exciſe laws as impoſes a duty on ſpirituous liquors, by them diſtilled for their own conſumption, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 280 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable *Charles Pettit*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, with its encloſures, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Robert Bridges* and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Gray*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wheeler*, and adopted, in the words following:

Whereas the members of this Houſe are frequently at a loſs, for want of a ſufficient number of the laws and minutes relating to this commonwealth: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the Clerk of the General Aſſembly be directed to procure and furniſh to this Houſe (out of the monies placed in his hands) three ſets of the laws of the province of *Pennſylvania* (formerly ſo called) and alſo five ſets of the laws of this commonwealth, compleat to the end of the laſt ſeſſion of the Tenth General Aſſembly, together with three ſets of the minutes, or journals, of the General Aſſembly of this commonwealth, to the laſt mentioned period, to be kept in the Aſſembly Chamber, for the uſe of the members.

The committee appointed *October* 30th laſt, on that part of the Meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of the 25th day of *Auguſt* laſt, reſpecting the penſion law, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 11th, on the petition of *Cornelius Daily* and others, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of ſundry perſons confined in the gaol of *Bucks* county for fines for neglect of performing militia duties, beg leave to report——

Tha

That they are of opinion the application ſhould have been made to the Preſident and Council, the conſtitution authoriſing them to remit fines, and that this Houſe need take no meaſures in the premiſes.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent, for a limited time, the ſales of lands* "*for the payment of taxes within the frontier counties of this ſtate, belonging to* "*non-reſident owners thereof, and to allow the ſaid owners a further day of ap-*"*peal,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to direct and authoriſe the laying out of an* "*highway through this ſtate, from the waters of the river* Potowmack *to the* "*river* Ohio, *in order to extend and facilitate the intercourſe which is aſſigned* "*to be opened between the ſame,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of* "*the townſhip of* Leacock, *in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 15, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Baptiſt congregation of *Lower Dublin* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *James Brown* and *Samuel Caſſan,* read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *November* 11th and *December* 17th laſt, were ſeverally preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Daniel Vanderſlice,* read *November* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petitions of *James Brown, Samuel Caſſan, Thomas Houſton, Joſhua Barney, James Montgomery, James Bray, Jacob Weaver* and others, and *Joanna Young,* be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Atlee,* Mr. *M'Conaughy,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Kreemer,* Mr. *Mawhorter,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Antes,* Mr. *Barr,* Mr. *Flenniken,* Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* Mr. *M'Calmont,* Mr. *Hockley* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of 868 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the letter from the Judge of the Admiralty, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petition of *William Alliſon* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 11th, on the memorial of the ſociety for promoting Agriculture, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 11th, on the petition of *John Fitch*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the letter from *Joſeph Stiles*, poſtponed *November* 9th, and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from *Joſeph Stiles*, report——

That they have heard the ſaid *Joſeph Stiles*, and are of opinion that the act, entituled "*An Act for the better ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and its liberties from danger of gun-powder*," will admit of ſeveral material and beneficial alterations: Therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Hiltzheimer* and Mr. *Logan* be a committee, to bring in a bill for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council reſpecting the penſion law, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council of the 25th of *Auguſt* laſt, relative to the penſion law, report,

That they have conſidered the ſubject referred to them, and made enquiry into the cauſe of the complaint, which they apprehend to be well founded, and to ariſe chiefly from the mode appointed for the execution of the law, which reſts with the Orphans Courts of the ſeveral counties, which Courts, from the uncertainty of their ſeſſions, as well as of the Judges who may happen to preſide therein, your committee apprehend may have been a material cauſe of the grievance ſuggeſted.

They therefore beg leave to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill repealing ſo much of the penſion law paſſed *September* 22d, 1785, as veſts in the Orphans Courts of the ſeveral counties the right of juriſdiction in the caſe of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who have been diſabled, *&c.* and to veſt the ſame in the Judges of the Supreme Court, while on circuit or in bank, in the ſeveral counties of this commonwealth, ſubject to ſuch controul as may appear neceſſary.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, on the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez*, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian Church in the townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the county of* Dauphin," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 16, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE following ſubjects have preſented themſelves to us as important, and are ſubmitted to your conſideration.

By a report of the 4th of *October*, from Meſſieurs *Porter* and *M'Clean*, we are informed that the buſineſs upon which they were employed is now finiſhed, and that the weſtern line of this ſtate extends ſome diſtance into lake *Erie.* The advantages which may reſult to the public from this circumſtance, if well underſtood and properly improved, have led us to ſuggeſt the expediency of ſetting off and reſerving to the uſe of this commonwealth a tract of land, of ſuch ſhape and dimenſions as ſhall take in all theſe parts of the lake falling within our limits.

By a law paſſed on the 16th day of *September*, 1785, the 10th day of *April* next has been made the period for compleating all titles to lands held by location or other office right obtained before the 10th day of *September*, 1776, and yet remaining unpatented. On this we would ſtate our information, that the indulgence offered by this law has been ſeldom uſed, and our belief that, notwithſtanding the wiſhes of the people to accommodate, it will eventually meet with but little compliance. Should the penal part of it be ſtrictly obſerved, it is hard to ſay what evils it might originate, or where they would ceaſe. The preſumption is, that they would be many and extenſive; and, in this event, we need ſcarcely ſuggeſt how much ſafer and better it would be to alter the law, than to riſque the experiment. Another objection to the law, as it now ſtands, will ariſe from the mode preſcribed for its execution. By reference to an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the 9th day of *April*, 1781, the land officers are directed to make out, and tranſmit "to the reſpective County "Commiſſioners, liſts of the delinquents for purchaſe money and intereſt, or "arrearages of purchaſe money and intereſt, in their counties reſpectively, "upon which liſts the Commiſſioners are required to iſſue their warrants of "ſale, *&c.*" But from a view of the land-office books, it appears that all accounts are in the names of the original warrantees, who in many inſtances are dead, and who in others have transferred the property; whence it muſt follow, that theſe liſts cannot be made a directory for the proceſſes to be inſtituted. Under theſe circumſtances two expedients offer, which in our opinion obviate all objection, and make compliance eaſy. The firſt of theſe is, to extend the term given for compleating titles; the other, to make all funded certificates of the ſtate receivable in the land-office for every deſcription of debt due therein.——To the former no objection has occurred, and to the latter ſuch only as may be drawn from the law, entituled "*An Act for emitting the ſum* "*of* five hundred thouſand pounds, *&c.*" and which may be eaſily and fairly removed by commuting the fund. To this we would only add, that we cannot enter into either the juſtice or policy of keeping a reſource of ſo much promiſe, as the arrearages are ſtated to be, excluſively charged with the redemption of a ſum which does not in fact amount to more than *ſixty-five thouſand pounds*, when, if made immediately to operate upon the certificates of the ſtate, they would ſoon and neceſſarily abſorb a much greater proportion of our debt. Number one of the papers incloſed will illuſtrate this calculation.

Our duty has occaſionally led us to enquire into the ſales of land within the new or laſt *Indian* purchaſe, and it is with ſome regret that we find ourſelves able to aſſure you, that they fall far ſhort of every hope and calculation that we had entertained concerning them. This failure we attribute to the high and very unequal price ſet upon the land. To liberate this fund, therefore, from its preſent inactivity, and make it as productive as we had originally expected, we think it only neceſſary that the price of the land be lowered: The nearer it can be brought to that of the old purchaſe, the better.

We are of opinion that the reſerved tract, oppoſite to *Pittſburgh*, ſhould now be ſold, and that if divided into ſmall lots, for the accommodation of the town, it would ſell to the greateſt advantage.

We incloſe the petitions of *John Sharp* and *Anthony Selin*.

B. FRANKLIN.

Council Chamber, Philadelphia,
November 15, 1786.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, ſuggeſting divers advantages which would ariſe to the ſtate by a repeal of the preſent laws for the regulation of vendues, and praying leave to keep a public vendue within the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, or that every citizen may be entitled to open a ſtore for the ſale of goods by public auction, upon giving ſufficient ſecurity for the payment of the duty impoſed by the exiſting laws.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and* "*building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe creek, *in the county of* Lancaſter," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Memorial of the Subſcribers, in behalf of themſelves and the Subſcribers to the Memorial addreſſed to the late Houſe of Aſſembly in favor of the Bank of North-America,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT your memorialiſts do moſt anxiouſly ſolicit a re-conſideration of that important buſineſs, for the following reaſons:

1ſt. That a former legiſlature, in granting a charter to the ſaid Bank, expreſly covenanted to preſerve inviolate the rights and privileges attached thereto.

2d. That the moſt ſolemn ſanctions of the legiſlature cannot in juſtice be revoked, without a proof of ſuch delinquency as will induce a forfeiture of thoſe rights, they being matters of binding contract; therefore not reſumable at the will and pleaſure of a ſubſequent Houſe.

3d. That the ſcope and proviſions of the repealing act tend to render the public faith of no eſtimation, and the franchiſes of corporate bodies, ſolemnly granted and confirmed, exceedingly precarious; the conſequence of which will be, that during the continuance of this act, every violation of the public faith will be juſtified by the plea of precedent, and the ſanction of the legiſlature will, of courſe, become the moſt feeble of all ſecurities.

4th. That this inſtitution, from the exact punctuality of its dealings, and the able adminiſtration of its affairs, has not only permanently eſtabliſhed its own, but has contributed eſſentially to ſupport the general credit of the ſtate.

5th. That the advantages that have been and are to be derived from it, with reſpect to agriculture, commerce and manufactures, are of the moſt important nature, and are univerſally experienced and confeſſed.

6th. That in periods of public calamity and diſtreſs, inſtitutions like this have been the ſalvation of a ſtate, by affording immediate aſſiſtance on ſudden emergencies, when an exhauſted treaſury could not furniſh the neceſſary ſupplies.

The important accommodations that the United States have already felt from its ſalutary ſervices, prove the juſtice and propriety of the remark.

7th. That, moved and influenced by the experience of its general utility, and other ſerious conſiderations, which cannot eſcape the penetration of your honorable Houſe, your memorialiſts fervently wiſh to ſee the protection of the government extended to this inſtitution, and a more intimate union take place and be cemented betwixt them.

8th. That your memorialiſts will not preſume to point out a mode, in which the public good may the moſt effectually be conſolidated with the protection required for this inſtitution; but ſubmit to the wiſdom of your honorable Houſe the manner of modifying its charter, ſo as to anſwer this beneficial purpoſe; and to its juſtice, to afford ſuch redreſs as the nature and extent of the grievance complained of ſolicits and calls for.

That in conſideration of the ſalutary and effective purpoſes to be derived to the citizens of the ſtate from the re-eſtabliſhment of this inſtitution, your memorialiſts, with the fulleſt confidence, commit themſelves and the ſubject of their memorial to your honorable Houſe, humbly requeſting that they may ſeriouſly claim their attention, and that ſuch permanent relief and aſſiſtance may be extended, as the important nature of the buſineſs may require and demand.

And your memorialiſts, in behalf of themſelves and all others concerned, as in duty bound, ſhall ever pray, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Dale*, ſeconded by Mr. *Antes*, and adopted, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas, by an act paſſed the twenty-fifth day of *September* laſt, entituled "*An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of* Northumberland *into* "*a ſeparate county*," it appears by the ſecond ſection of ſaid act, that the line to be run from the mouth of *Neſcopeck* to the line which divides the waters of the Eaſt Branch of *Suſquehanna* from thoſe of the Weſt Branch, is to be run to a point due weſt, which ſaid line is an error in the engroſſed act, and totally inadmiſſible: Therefore

Reſolved, That Mr. *Antes,* Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill to remedy the defect in the aforeſaid act.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington,* read in the late and former Houſes of Aſſembly *March* 7th, 1785, and *September* 2d laſt, praying a part of the ſaid counties may be erected into a new county, were preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *John Fitch,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of his petition.

The report of the committee, on the memorial of the Society for promoting Agriculture, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the memorial of the Society for promoting Agriculture report——

That they have viewed the model of the bridge propoſed to be thrown over the river *Schuylkill,* at the end of *High-ſtreet,* and are of opinion that it is well adapted to the purpoſe: And conceiving alſo that private undertakings of ſuch great extent and uſefulneſs are worthy of the encouragement of the legiſlature, the committee propoſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That this Houſe is well diſpoſed to grant any company, which may be formed for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over the river *Schuylkill,* a charter of incorporation, ſecuring to them a property therein, until, by moderate tolls to be exacted, they ſhall be reimburſed their expences, both principal and intereſt.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to exonerate the Contributors to the* Pennſylvania *Hoſpital from a debt due* "*to this commonwealth, upon a loan made to them in the year of our Lord one* "*thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church in the* "*townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the county of* Dauphin," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 17, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Caldwell* was read, ſetting forth, that he was appointed in 1776 a Lieutenant in the regiment commanded by Colonel *Atlee,* and ſhortly after received the appointment of a Captain in the Ninth *Pennſyl-*

vania regiment, but, previous to his taking the command of his company, he was taken priſoner at the ſurrender of fort *Waſhington*, and continued in captivity until the year 1779, when, on his arrival in the city of *Philadelphia*, agreeably to the act of Congreſs of the 24th of *November*, 1778, he made report of his exchange to the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate; that there being no vacancy in the line of the army of this ſtate, he was appointed to the command of the marines on board the ſtate ſhip *General Greene*, and continued in that command until the ſaid ſhip was ſold; that he conceives himſelf entitled to the emoluments of an officer retiring from ſervice in 1781; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed on the petition of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *Ruth Corren*, widow of *Iſaac Corren*, late an officer in the corps of artillery, was read, ſtating divers ſervices rendered by her ſaid huſband during the late war, and praying this Houſe to grant her ſome compenſation for the ſame; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A letter from *Richard Thomas*, Eſquire, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Smith* was read, ſetting forth, that whilſt employed as a purchaſing commiſſary during the late war he borrowed divers ſums, and among the reſt the ſum of *two hundred and ninety-four pounds fourteen ſhillings and ſeven-pence* from *Robert Miller*, Eſquire, for which he gave his bond, all which ſums of money, borrowed as aforeſaid, were applied to the public ſervice; that he is now preſſed for payment of the aforeſaid *two hundred and ninety-four pounds fourteen ſhillings and ſeven-pence*; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Elias Boys* was read, ſetting forth, that during the late war he loaned divers ſums of money to the United States, and placed the ſame in the loan-office in the *Delaware* ſtate, where his family then reſided; that he was a citizen of and an officer in the militia of this ſtate, before, during, and ſince the late war; therefore praying he may be entitled to receive the intereſt due on the ſame out of the treaſury of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, was read, praying an act may be paſſed, declaring, that in all controverſies reſpecting the right, title or claim to lands, the preference be given to the actual ſettlers thereof, or thoſe claiming under them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 30th, 1785, with the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, reſpecting the claims of divers perſons concerned in erecting the Triumphal Arch upon the definitive treaty of peace between the United States and *Great-Britain*, were preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the members of the Baptiſt congregation of *Lower Dublin*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A memorial and petition from the Miniſter, Elders, ſeveral Truſtees and other members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church, or Aſſociate Congregation in *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled " *An Act* " *to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian* " *Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the* " *ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction*," and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the letter from the Judge of the Admiralty, read *November* 15th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

The report of the committee on the petition of 868 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read *November* 15th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the aforeſaid petition cannot be granted, conſiſtent with the faith and honor of the ſtate, as the law fixing the courts of juſtice at *Harriſburgh* is juſtly conſidered the act and deed of government, ſecuring that privilege to the inhabitants thereof.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the reſidue of ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the firſt propoſition of the ſaid meſſage, relative to the report of Meſſieurs *Porter* and *M'Clean*, be referred to Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, with inſtructions to confer with the Supreme Executive Council, to obtain the beſt information they can on the ſubject, and report to this Houſe.

Reſolved, That the ſecond propoſition of ſaid meſſage, with the encloſures, relative to arrearages of land pledged for redemption of the paper emiſſion o 1781, and for receiving certificates in payment for ſaid lands, be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, in order that they may inveſtigate and conſider the ſubject fully, and report thereon to this Houſe; and that the committee be inſtructed to make enquiry, and report the amount of all arrearages of purchaſe money, previous to the revolution.

Reſolved, That the third propoſition of ſaid meſſage, relative to the ſale o lands in the new purchaſe, be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Flenniken*, to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the fourth propoſition of ſaid meſſage, relative to the ſale o the reſerved lands oppoſite *Pittſburgh*, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the petitions of *John Sharp* and *Anthony Selin*, with the papers attending the ſame, be referred to the committee appointed *Novembe* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

Reſolve

Reſolved, That the letter from the Board of Treaſury of the 7th of *November*, with the acts of Congreſs of the 20th and 21ſt of *October*, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Reſolved, That the letter from the Secretary of Congreſs of the 27th of *October*, with the acts of Congreſs of the 30th *April*, 1784, and 23d *October*, 1786, be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate the contributors to the* Pennſylvania *Hoſpital from a debt due to this commonwealth, upon a loan made to them in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 18, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Samuel Braay* was read, ſetting forth, that he ſerved as a volunteer under Colonel *William Cook* in the year 1777; that he captured a waggon and four horſes, loaded with valuable articles, belonging to the *Britiſh* army; that he delivered the ſame, with a rifle, his own property, for the uſe of the army of the United States, for which he has not received any compenſation; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The petition of *Samuel Dellap*, read *November* 10th, and the petition of *Jonas Philips*, read *November* 16th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, with the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *C. Moore* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer*,

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 16th, to bring in a bill to remedy an error contained in the act, entituled "*An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of* Northumberland *into a ſeparate county*," be inſtructed to inſert a clauſe or clauſes in the ſaid bill, to enable the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* to hold a general election.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of 868 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for the re-annexing *Heidelberg* townſhip to the county of *Lancaſter*, by a line to be run along the line of *Heidelberg* townſhip, ſo as to take the whole of that townſhip in *Lancaſter* county.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Canon* and Mr. *Miley* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch *the ſole right and advantages* "*of making and employing the Steam-boat by him lately invented, for a limited* "*time*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *November* 20, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *John Pearſon* and *John Roſs* were read, ſtating divers ſervices rendered by the ſaid *John Pearſon* and *John Roſs* during the late war with *Great-Britain*, for which they have not received any compenſation, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from the Union Library Company of *Hatborough*, in the county of *Montgomery*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Hannah Crawford*, relict of Colonel *William Crawford*, late of *Franklin* townſhip, in the county of *Fayette*, was read, ſtating her diſtreſſed circumſtances, occaſioned by the patriotic exertions of her ſaid huſband during the late war with *Great-Britain*, and praying this Houſe to grant her relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch *the* "*ſole right and advantages of making and employing the Steam-boat by him lately* "*invented, for a limited time*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 21, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Thomas Lepier* was read, ſetting forth, that he acted in ſeveral capacities in the late ſtate navy, and praying he may be entitled to the like emoluments granted to other officers of the ſaid navy; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *Thomas Robinſon* was read, ſetting forth, that in *April* 1780 he was appointed to the command of a company of rangers, for the protection of the frontiers of the county of *Northumberland,* and continued in that command until *November* 1783, therefore praying he may be entitled to the commutation of five years full pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Richardſon, John Lawrence, John Morgan, John Helm, Daniel Broadhead, Charles Phile* and *John Rudolph,* late officers in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, praying they may be entitled to the ſame emoluments as were granted to other officers in ſimilar circumſtances; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt mentioned committee, to report thereon.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Newberry* and *Monaghan,* in the county of *York,* was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Cumberland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *William Irvine,* Eſquire, elected a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, notifying his acceptance of that appointment, was read.

A petition from the truſtees of the ſecond Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for altering and amending their charter of incorporation, ſo far as to enable them to diſpoſe of any part of the real eſtate of the ſaid corporation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, to lay before this Houſe a plan for repairing and ſupporting the public roads, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petitions of the inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* and to whom alſo was referred the petition of the coachmakers, and others employed in the ſeveral branches of making coaches, chariots and other pleaſurable carriages, in *Germantown,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the letter from the Judge of the Admiralty; and after ſome debate,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, in order to introduce a motion made by Mr. *Brackenridge,* and ſeconded by Mr. *Morris,* which was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to regulate the juriſdiction of the Court of Admiralty Seſſions within this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh the conſtitution of that Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to an Act, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of* September *laſt, entituled*

"An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of *Northumberland* into "a ſeparate county," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington*, read *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Brackenridge*, Mr. *Flenniken*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 22, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Truſtees of the public ſchool of *Germantown* was read, praying this Houſe to grant them a proportion of the lands ſet apart for the endowment of ſeminaries of learning.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Daniel Netherhouſe* and *Owen M'Laughlin*, late ſoldiers in the line of this ſtate, were read, ſetting forth, that they have loſt the certificates given them for the depreciation due on their pay, and praying new ones may be granted them in lieu of thoſe which they have loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *Sebaſtian Stonemeyer* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to his ſon for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the truſtees of the ſecond Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of the Union Library Company of *Hatborough*, in the county of *Montgomery*, read *November* 20th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition from divers inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, reſpecting the charter of the Bank of *North-America*, read *November* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of* "September *laſt, entituled* "An Act for erecting the northern part of the "county of *Northumberland* into a ſeparate county," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent for a limited time the ſales of lands* "*for the payment of taxes within the frontier counties of this ſtate, belonging to* "*non-reſident owners thereof, and to allow the ſaid owners a further day of ap-* "*peal*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 23, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Hubley*, Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that, at the time of paſſing the act of General Aſſembly for raiſing and collecting of money on the ſpecified articles therein mentioned, the ſaid county was extenſive, and the ſhare of the buſineſs then tranſacted in the Prothonotary's office might reaſonably afford a large revenue to the public; that ſince the diviſion of the ſaid county, and the paſſing of the act making debts not exceeding *ten pounds* cognizable before juſtices of the peace, the buſineſs and profits of the ſaid office have been greatly diminiſhed; therefore praying this Houſe to leſſen or aboliſh the tax on writs iſſued in the ſaid county of *Lancaſter*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from the managers elected by the contributors to the relief and employment of the Poor in the city of *Philadelphia, &c.* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition and remonſtrance of the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia*, the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties*, and the diſtrict of *Southwark*, read *November* 7th, and ſuggeſting divers amendments to the exiſting laws for the ſupport of the Poor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Reverend *John Neveling* was read, ſtating his diſtreſſed circumſtances, in conſequence of his receipt of continental money in its depreciated ſtate during the late war, and of his infirm condition of health, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *Henry Spees*, late a Lieutenant in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he ſerved as a Lieutenant until *April* 1780, and praying he may be allowed the depreciation due on his pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Brackenridge*, and ſeconded by Mr. *Smith*,

That a committee be appointed, to report an eſtimate of the expence of dividing, by a partition from the entry, that part of the State-Houſe in which the Supreme Court uſually meet, and the expence of ſetting up a ſtove therein.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*, and unanimouſly adopted, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas it is the duty of the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of this commonwealth to apportion the public burthens as equally as poſſible, and to leſſen the expence of aſſeſſing and collecting the taxes, as far as is conſiſtent with the general intereſt of the ſtate: Therefore,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to prepare and lay before this Houſe a plan for the more equal aſſeſſment and frugal collection of the public taxes.

And for the better enabling the committee to obtain the neceſſary information for their government,

Reſolved, That the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties be, and they are hereby directed to furniſh the ſaid committee with all ſuch information as they may find it neceſſary to apply to them for, touching the aſſeſſments and collections of taxes within their reſpective counties.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *C. Moore,* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Evans,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned, for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee reſpecting public roads within this commonwealth.

The committee appointed *November* 11th, on the petition of *Elizabeth Kurtz,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *George Rutter* and *Martin Jugiez,* poſtponed *November* 15th; and on the queſtion,—*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*" viz.

Reſolved, That Meſſieurs *Rutter* and *Jugiez* have leave to bring in a bill for the payment of *one hundred and twelve pounds* to them, for the carving, painting and gilding the arms of the ſtate now placed over the ſeat of juſtice in the ſtate-Houſe, in this city.

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 24, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, November* 23, 1786.

SIR,

AN order was this day taken for tranſmitting the incloſed papers to the General Aſſembly.

I am, SIR,
With great regard,
Your obedient and very humble Servant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

A petition from *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin* was read, ſetting forth, that they have erected a bridge acroſs *Neſhaminey* creek, at the old ferry, on the road leading from the city of *Philadelphia* to the city of *New-York,* and praying leave to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh the ſaid bridge, under proper regulations and reſtrictions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Leonard*, late a ſoldier in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given to him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him, in lieu of the one he hath ſo loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Mary Jones*, widow of *Thomas Jones*, late a Lieutenant in the navy of this ſtate, was read, praying a certificate may be granted her for the depreciation due on her late huſband's pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, relative to the exciſe laws, read *November* 13th and 15th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *McDowell*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Elias Boys*, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Newberry* and *Managhan*, in the county of *York*, read *November* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *McConaughy*, Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The petition of the truſtees of the public ſchool at *Germantown*, read *November* 22d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Antes*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Foulke* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent week.

The memorial and petition of the miniſter, elders, ſeveral truſtees and other members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, to procure 2000 copies of the conſtitution of this commonwealth to be printed, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petition of *Baltzer Meyerly* and *Nicholas Sherer*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, relative to the ſale of the reſerved lands oppoſite to *Pittſburgh*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *November* 21ſt, on the petitions from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, and of the coach-makers and others employed in the ſeveral branches of making coaches, *&c.* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petitions praying for a diviſion of the county of *Bedford*, poſtponed *November* 10th, and adopted the ſame as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Bedford* county, praying a diviſion of the ſaid county, report——

That from the great extent of *Bedford* county, and the conſequent inconvenience to many of the inhabitants of attending the courts at the town of *Bedford*, a diviſion of that county is become expedient. Your committee further report,

That on the beſt information they can obtain, as well from the wiſh of the petitioners as from ſundry of the inhabitants of the old county of *Bedford*, the following lines of diviſion for the new county will be generally acceptable, *viz.* Beginning at a place called *M'Namara*'s gap, in the *Tuſcarora* mountain, and in the line of *Franklin* county; thence in a ſtrait line to the old gap in *Sideling* hill, where *Sideling* hill creek cuts the mountain; thence in a ſtrait line by the ſouth-eaſterly ſide of *Sebaſtian Shoub*'s mill, on the *Ray*'s town branch of *Juniata*; thence in a ſtrait line to the *Elk* gap, in *Tuſſey*'s mountain, being about nineteen miles ſouth-weſterly of the town of *Huntingdon*, heretofore called the *Standing Stone*; and from the ſaid *Elk* gap in a ſtrait line to the gap at *Jacob Stevens*'s mill, a little below where *Woolery*'s mill formerly ſtood, in *Morriſon*'s cove; thence in a ſtrait line by the ſoutherly ſide of *Blair*'s mill, at the foot of the *Allegany* mountain; thence acroſs the ſaid mountain in a due weſt courſe to the line of *Weſtmoreland* county; thence by the ſame to the purchaſe line, as it was run from *Kittaning* to the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna*; thence down the ſaid weſt branch to the mouth of *Maſhanon* creek; and from thence along the remaining lines and boundaries which now divide the county of *Bedford* from the counties of *Northumberland*, *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, to the place of beginning. Your committee further report——

That they find the petitioners unanimous in praying that the town of *Huntingdon*, on *Juniata*, may be the county town, or place to be fixed for the ſcite of a Court-houſe, and of the county gaol or priſon, for the ſaid propoſed county, as well on account of the central ſituation of the ſaid town, as of its conveniency of navigation on the river *Juniata*, and the number of great roads and vallies which from different parts of the country meet in and near the ſaid town.

Upon the whole, your committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for dividing the county of *Bedford*, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioners, and conformably to the lines and boundaries ſet forth in this report.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Canon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 25, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *George Wall*, junior, of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented a mathematical inſtrument upon new and different principles from any other within his knowledge, and which will be extenſively uſeful in many arts, eſpecially ſurveying, as anſwering many more purpoſes than other inſtruments are deſigned to do; and praying leave to bring in a bill to veſt in him, his heirs and aſſigns, for the term of twenty-one years, the excluſive right of vending the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Hannah Crawford*, read *November* 20th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Wright*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Bucks* county, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Trexler* have leave of abſence during the next week.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Smith* be added to the committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of the miniſter, divers truſtees and members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*.

The petition of divers inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, read *November* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Canon* and Mr. *Smith*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, relative to that part of the meſſage from Council which reſpects the ſale of lands oppoſite the town of *Pittſburgh*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred that part of the meſſage of Council which recommends the ſale of the lands oppoſite *Pittſburgh*, report——

That they are induced to agree in opinion with Council upon that ſubject, from a conſideration of the great debt due by the ſtate, and the neceſſity of providing for its diſcharge by all the means within the power of the Houſe.

From the ſituation of the lands in queſtion, and the excellent quality of the greater part of them, the committee are of opinion that a conſiderable ſum may be obtained from a prudent diſpoſition and ſale of them; and therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill authoriſing the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, with a competent number of out-lots for the accommodation thereof, in the lands belonging to the ſtate oppoſite *Pittſburgh*, and that they cauſe the reſidue of the ſaid tract to be ſurveyed and laid out in lots, not leſs than   or more than   acres.

That upon a return of ſuch ſurveys to Council, they be authoriſed to ſell the whole of the lots ſo to be laid out (except what they ſhall adjudge neceſſary to reſerve for the ſcite of a Court-houſe and other public buildings) in ſuch manner as they ſhall think moſt advantageous for the ſtate; provided, however, that the ſale ſhall be by public auction in *Philadelphia*, and that notice be given in the public papers of this city, and in the *Pittſburgh* Gazette, at leaſt   previous to the ſale.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Baltzer Meyerly* and *Nicholas Sherer*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer of the petitioners cannot be allowed, but their remedy muſt be in a court of law, againſt thoſe perſons of whom they have received damage.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 27, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the petitions praying a diviſion of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to procure 2000 copies of the conſtitution of this commonwealth to be printed, read *November* 24th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, who were directed to procure 2000 copies of the conſtitution of this ſtate to be printed, beg leave to report——

That the copies of the ſame are now in the committee room, at the diſpoſal of the Legiſlature. They alſo report the account of the printer for the ſame, amounting to *twelve pounds eighteen ſhillings and nine-pence.*

Ordered, That the ſaid account be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That this Houſe will, to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, attend the funeral of the late *Samuel John Atlee*, Eſquire.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on that part of the meſſage from Council relative to a reſervation of certain lands bounding upon lake *Erie*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to divide* Waſhington *county into election diſtricts*;" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Baptiſt church and congregation in* Lower Dublin *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to prevent, for a limited time, the ſales of lands for the payment of taxes within the frontier counties of this ſtate, belonging to non-reſident owners thereof, and to allow the ſaid owners a further day of appeal,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

Ordered, That the Clerk of this Houſe procure 100 copies of the ſaid act to be immediately printed, for the government of the reſpective County Commiſſioners concerned.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 28, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read, relating to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge acroſs the river *Schuylkill*, ſuggeſting the propriety of fixing on ſuch place for the erection of a bridge, as will be moſt advantageous as well for the facility of tranſportation, as the ſhortening the diſtance, goodneſs of roads, cheapneſs of erection, greater probability of permanence, increaſing the avenues to the city, and ſpreading the benefits of the weſtern trade more generally among the citizens of the ſtate at large; therefore praying the Houſe to fall upon ſome means for obtaining the neceſſary information in the premiſes, and if ſatisfactory reaſons ſhall appear for the purpoſe, that then the memorialiſts, and ſuch others aſſociating with them as ſhall be willing to undertake the erection of a permanent bridge, may have leave to bring in a bill for that end.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 18th, on the letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, relative to the Triumphal Arch, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Lancaſter*, *Cumberland* and *Franklin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee, read *November* 21ſt, reſpecting a plan for improving the public roads within this commonwealth, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the reſolution of yeſterday, the Houſe attended the funeral of the late *Samuel John Atlee*, Eſquire, and having returned to the Aſſembly Chamber,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 29, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Tinicum* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Eſpy*, Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county of *Bedford*, ſtating his having received the orders of this Houſe to forward the liſts, tallies, and other documents which might be in his poſſeſſion, relating to the late election for the county of *Bedford*, was read, giving information, that none of thoſe papers had been committed to his care, other than a duplicate of the general return, which he had already tranſmitted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of a place called the *Big Spring*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, ſtating the many diſadvantages they labour under on account of the dams erected acroſs the ſaid ſpring, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 11th, was preſented to the chair, read, and Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Kearſley* and others, children and heirs of Doctor *John Kearſley*, junior, deceaſed, was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer of the petition of the Veſtry of the United Churches of *Chriſt-church* and St. *Peter*'s, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *October* 27th laſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from *Bartholomew Terraſſon*, in behalf of himſelf and others, creditors of *Anthony Baſtide*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, remonſtrating againſt granting the prayer contained in the petition of the ſaid *Baſtide*, read *October* 31ſt laſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Morris*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to alter and amend an act, entituled "*An Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of* "*this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures* "*which interfere with them.*"

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 25th, on the petition of *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin*, made report, which was read, and Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on that part of the meſſage which propoſes to reduce the price of the public lands within the late purchaſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 22d, on the petitions reſpecting the Bank of *North-America*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, to report a plan for leſſening the annual expenditures of the civil liſt, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 14th, on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee appointed to report a plan for improving the public roads within this commonwealth, poſtponed yeſterday; and after ſome debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next.

The report of the committee, read *November* 25th, on the petitions of divers inſolvent debtors, and others confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Dale* be a committee, to bring in a bill to extend the benefit of the acts for the relief of inſolvent debtors to ſuch perſons who may be confined under execution for rent, and to ſuch convicts as may be confined for reſtitution of effects, or the value thereof, to their proſecutors; and to prevent debtors from being remanded, on a weekly allowance, by their creditors, longer than months.

Reſolved, That Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Wright* be a committee, to bring in a bill for the relief of *Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, John Harmar, Adam Alberger, Edward Dickinſon* and *Cato Hill,* under the reſtrictions uſual in ſuch caſes.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions praying certificates of public debts may be made receivable for arrearages due to this ſtate for lands purchaſed previous to the revolution, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and that *Friday* next be aſſigned for the further conſideration of the ſaid report.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the meſſage of Council, together with the petition of *Gunning Bedford* and others, was read the ſecond time: And on the queſtion,---" *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?* viz.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of ſundry perſons who furniſhed materials or executed work on the exhibition aforeſaid, for a ſum not exceeding *two hundred and twenty-one pounds one ſhilling and nine-pence three farthings.*

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, read *November* 27th, on that part of the meſſage of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council relative to a reſervation of certain lands bounding upon lake *Erie,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, viz.

The committee, to whom that part of the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council relative to a reſervation of certain lands bounding upon lake *Erie,* was committed, report.—

That by a law paſſed the 12th day of *March,* 1783, there was located and laid off a certain tract of country, bounded by the northern and weſtern boundaries of the State, as donation lands to the officers and privates of this State, and by the law directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, after the expiration of one year from the time the Surveyor-General ſhall have returned to Council a draught of the lots ſurveyed, the Supreme Executive Council ſhould cauſe the remaining lots, and the reſidue of the lands appropriated by the law of 1783, which may not be applied for, to be laid off, advertiſed and ſold within a reaſonable time, under their direction, for the benefit of the State. Your committee would obſerve, that the law empowering Council to diſpoſe of the reſidue of ſaid lands is defective; that they have conferred with Council on the reſervation referred to in their meſſage, and concur with them in opinion, that it may be advantageous to the State: Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to reſerve out of the lands above deſcribed a certain tract, beginning on the weſtern boundary of this State lately run by Meſſieurs *M'Clean* and *Porter,* at a point two miles ſouth of the moſt ſouthern part of lake *Erie,* within this State; thence due eaſt to a point, two miles eaſt of that point, where the northern boundary of this State touches lake *Erie* moſt eaſtward; thence due north to the northern boundary of the State; and from thence to the place of beginning.

On motion of Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer,*

Ordered, That it be re-committed, and that the committee be inſtructed to report a plan for erecting a town on the ſaid lake, as well as to amend ſuch parts of the acts relative to the diſtribution of the donation lands, as they may deem expedient or neceſſary.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 30, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, ſetting forth, that many illegal practices had been uſed at the late general election held in and for the ſaid county, and praying that ſubpœnas may iſſue to the witneſſes, for the purpoſe of aſcertaining the true ſtate of the ſaid election.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Preſbyterian congregation of *Tinicum* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *C. Moore*, be a committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *George Wall*, junior, read *November* 25th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Chapman*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of a place called the *Big Spring*, in the county of *Cumberland*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cumberland* county, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Hubley*, read *November* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed *November* 23d, viz.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report to this Houſe an eſtimate of the expence of dividing, by a partition from the entry, that part of the State-Houſe in which the Supreme Court uſually meets, and the expence of ſetting up a ſtove therein.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed *November* 14th, on the petition of 280 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 14th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, and of *Robert Bridges*, *Elias Boys*, and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, relative to the ſale of the public lands within the new purchaſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee for reducing the annual expenditures of the civil liſt.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions for a diviſion of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petitions praying that a new county may be laid off, comprehending the town of *Pittſburgh*, are of opinion that it may be expedient, and offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a new county be laid off by the following boundaries, *viz.* Beginning on the *Ohio* river, at the mouth of *Flaharty*'s run, and thence with a direct line to a point on *Chartier*'s river, two miles below the mouth of *Miller*'s run, and thence with a direct line to the *Monongahela* river, at the mouth of *Youghiogeny* river, and with that river to the mouth of *Turtle* creek, and with that creek to the mouth of the moſt northerly branch, and with that branch to the head, and from the head of ſaid branch to the head of *Plumb* run, and with that run to the *Allegheny* river; and aſcending that river to the boundary of *Northumberland* county, at the mouth of *Conewago* river, and with that river to the northern boundary of the ſtate, if the ſaid river ſhall extend ſo far, or if it ſhall not extend ſo far, then with a north line to the ſaid northern boundary, and with the ſaid boundary to the weſtern boundary of this ſtate, and with that line to the *Ohio* river, and with that river to the place of beginning.

Your committee alſo taking into view the value it will give to the tract of land reſerved by this ſtate on the weſt of the *Ohio*, and oppoſite the town of *Pittſburgh*, to have the ſeat of juſtice located on that tract, and alſo that but ſmall ſegments have been taken from the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* on this ſide the *Ohio* to the new county, offer a further reſolution:

Reſolved, That the ſeat of juſtice be located on the ſaid reſerved tract, and that in the mean time, until a court-houſe and gaol can be built on the ſaid tract, the courts ſhall be held in the town of *Pittſburgh*, and the Commiſſioners of the county ſhall be empowered to rent convenient buildings for a court-houſe and gaol, at the expence of the county; that the ſum to be expended in building a court-houſe and gaol ſhall not exceed
pounds.

Ordered, That Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Brackenridge*, Mr. *Flenniken*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt* and Mr. *Carſon*, be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act to prevent frauds in "the packing and preſerving of ſhad and herring for exportation," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled,* "An Act for re-eſtabliſhing the charter "of the ſecond Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia*, and for other "purpoſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* "An Act for regulating and eſta-"bliſhing Admiralty Juriſdiction; *and the act, entituled* "A Supplement to "the ſaid act," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide* Waſhington *county into election di-*"*ſtricts,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Baptiſt Church and congrega-*"*tion in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* "Pennſylvania," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 1, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from ſundry perſons, purchaſers and owners of lots near the city of *Philadelphia,* known by the name of city lots, was read, ſetting forth, that theſe lots are not within the built and improved parts of the city, nor are they likely to be ſo for many years to come, yet are heavily taxed in the aſſeſſments for paving, lighting and watching the ſtreets of *Philadelphia*; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill for confining the limits of taxation in ſupport of the lamps and watch, and for regulating and paving the ſtreets of *Philadelphia,* within ſuch reaſonable bounds as may include eſtates actually benefitted thereby.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating, that by the law paſſed *March* 16th, 1785, the county of *Northumberland* was quotaed the ſum of *two thouſand one hundred and forty-ſeven pounds ſixteen ſhillings and one penny* in the tax which is required to be paid into the treaſury annually, and remarking, that no proviſo is contained in the law for erecting the county of *Luzerne* out of the county of *Northumberland,* how the arrears of taxes ſhall be paid; therefore ſuggeſting, as the taxes of 1785 and 1786 are not yet laid in *Luzerne* county, the propriety of laying and collecting them within the county from whence they are due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee to whom were referred ſundry petitions praying that certificates of public debts may be made receivable for arrearages due to the ſtate for lands purchaſed previous to the revolution, was read the ſecond time, and in debating the ſame, a queſtion aroſe on the following reſolution therein contained, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill to authoriſe the Receiver-General of the Land-Office to receive in payment of arrearages of purchaſe money due for lands purchaſed before the fourth day of *July* 1776, three fourths thereof in depreciation certificates, or other certificates of debts due by this ſtate, on which intereſt is receivable at the treaſury of this commonwealth, in the ſame manner as ſpecie, bills of credit of the laſt emiſſion, or bills of credit of the ſaid emiſſion of the twentieth day of *April* 1781, are receivable.

Whereupon the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Whitehill*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *David Mitchell*,
5 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
6 *Philip Kreemer*,
7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *David Davis*,
9 *Robert Brown*,
10 *Peter Burkhalter*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *Frederick Antes*,
13 *Samuel Dale*,
14 *William Findley*,
15 *James Barr*,
16 *Alexander Wright*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *James Alliſon*,
20 *Theophilus Philips*,
21 *John Gilchreeſt*,
22 *Abraham Smith*,
23 *James M‘Calmont*,
24 *Robert Clark*,
25 *Jacob Miley*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *John Salter*,
9 *George Logan*,
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Robert Ralſton*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,
22 *David M‘Conaughy*,
23 *David M‘Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Adam Eichelberger*,
26 *John Canon*,
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
28 *Charles Moore*,
29 *Samuel Wheeler*,
30 *James Hockley*,
31 *Jacob Reiff*,
32 *John Carſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

That a committee be appointed to prepare and report to this Houſe a plan for the better ſecuring and more ſpeedy collection of the arrears of purchaſe money due for lands before the 10th of *December* 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee for that purpoſe.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 2, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from divers citizens of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* was read, incloſing a memorial and petition intended to have been preſented by the late

Samuel John Atlee, Eſquire, with divers vouchers accompanying the ſame, ſtating the many ſervices rendered by him to this ſtate as well as the United States of *America*, both in the cabinet and in the field, for which he hath not received an adequate compenſation, and praying this Houſe to take ſuch meaſures thereon as to them may appear juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Joſeph Vandegrift* and *Joſeph Baldwin*, read *November* 29th laſt, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, to eſtabliſh a bridge over *Neſhaminy* creek, at the old ferry on the road from the city of *Philadelphia* to the city of *New-York*, to be accommodated with a convenient draw for the paſſage of boats.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Salter*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to reviſe the act, entituled "*An* " *Act for the regulation of Bankruptcy*," and to report ſuch alterations and amendments thereto, as they may deem neceſſary.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of 280 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington*, read *November* 30th, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next, and that it be the order for the day.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of* Tinicum *townſhip, in* " *the county of* Bucks," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, and otherwiſe* " *apportion the lands contained in the tract of land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate* " *by the act, entituled* " An Act for the ſale of certain lands therein mention- " ed, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off the certificates of depre- " ciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, or their " repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other lands therein mentioned " for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided off to them ſeve- " rally at the end of the war," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* " An Act for the relief of officers, " ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have been wounded, " or otherwiſe diſabled, in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the United States," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act " to prevent frauds in the packing and preſerving of ſhad and herring for ex- " portation," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for eſta- " bliſhing the charter of the Second Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Phi-*

" *ladelphia,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, December 4, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *James Pettigrew,* late an officer in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt two certificates given to him on a final ſettlement of his accounts with the United States, one of them, No. 73,355, for 500 dollars, and the other, No. 73,357, for 555 60-90th dollars, and praying new certificates may be granted him, in lieu of thoſe which he hath ſo loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The memorial of divers citizens of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* incloſing a memorial and petition intended to have been preſented by the late *Samuel John Atlee,* Eſquire, and the ſeveral vouchers accompanying the ſame, read *December* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

A letter from the Comptroller-General of this ſtate was read, ſtating, that he hath endeavoured to procure a credit in favor of this ſtate, on account of the exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, for the ſum of *ſix thouſand five hundred pounds* ſpecie, paid to *James Meaſe,* Eſquire, by an order of the General Aſſembly, dated *March* 16, 1784, in part of a debt ſaid to be due to him from the United States, but without effect; and ſuggeſting, that it remains either with the United States to admit the aforeſaid ſum to the credit of this ſtate, or that it be recovered from the eſtate of the ſaid *James Meaſe.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *James Martin* was read, ſetting forth, that agreeably to the directions of this Houſe, *Hugh Barclay,* Eſquire, has arrived in this city, with the papers and documents relative to the late general election held in and for the county of *Bedford,*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks,* and of *Robert Bridges, Elias Boys* and others, read *November* 30th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A member in his place read a bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend the powers* " *of the Truſtees of the county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for ſettling their accounts;*" and, having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for the relief of* Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, John Harmer, Adam

“Alberger, Edward Dickinſon *and* Cato Hill, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* Tinicum *townſhip, in the county of* Bucks,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* “An Act for the ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other lands therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided off to them ſeverally at the end of the war,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 5, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Memorials from 773 inhabitants of this ſtate were read, praying that, as an encouragement for the manufacturing of bar iron in *Pennſylvania,* an impoſt or duty may be laid upon all bar iron of a foreign manufacture imported into this ſtate

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Cloyd,* Treaſurer of the county of *Cheſter,* was read, ſetting forth, that he was robbed on the twenty-fifth day of *November* 1782, of the ſum of *two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings,* gold and ſilver coin, and praying the amount thereof may be placed to his credit in the ſettlement of his accounts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee poſtponed *November* 30th, reſpecting the annual expenditures of the civil liſt.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

“Reſolved, *That from and after the* day of the daily pay of the members of the General Aſſembly be* twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence.”

On the queſtion,—“*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*

YEAS.

5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*

YEAS.

9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *Samuel Evans,*
14 *Townſend Whelen,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*
16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *David M‘Clellan,*
18 *Joſeph Lilly,*
19 *Adam Eichelberger,*
20 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
21 *Robert Brown,*
22 *John Canon,*
23 *William Findley,*
24 *Alexander Wright,*
25 *John M‘Dowell,*
26 *John Flenniken,*
27 *James Alliſon,*
28 *Theophilus Philips,*
29 *Abraham Smith,*
30 *James M‘Calmont,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *William Robinſon,* jun.
3 *Joſeph Work,*
4 *George Roſs,*
5 *David M‘Conaughy,*
6 *Robert Whitehill,*
7 *Thomas Beale,*
8 *Thomas Kennedy,*
9 *David Mitchell,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Daniel Clymer,*
14 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
15 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
16 *Peter Burkhalter,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *Frederick Antes,*
19 *Samuel Dale,*
20 *James Barr,*
21 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James Hockley,*
24 *Robert Clark,*
25 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

And the Houſe having thereupon fully debated the ſaid report by paragraphs, the ſame was adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to report a plan for reducing the expences of government, having had that ſubject under their conſideration, report,——

That in their opinion the preſent burthens under which the good people of this ſtate labour renders a retrenchment of every expence, beyond what is ſtrictly juſt and neceſſary, the duty of the repreſentatives of the people.

The committee have confined their views to the ſums actually paid out of the public treaſury, ſuppoſing that the emoluments ariſing from fees and perquiſites will more properly belong to the committee on ways and means.

From a return made by the Comptroller-General to a committee of a former Houſe of Aſſembly, it appears that the annual amount drawn out of the treaſury, for the ſupport of government, is *Twenty-nine Thouſand and Ten Pounds,*

Of this ſum, the annual expence of the General Aſſembly, on an average of three years, amounts to - -	£ 8100	0	0
Of the Supreme Executive Council, including the Preſident, Vice-Preſident and Secretary, - -	5600	0	0
Of the Delegates in Congreſs, to - - -	2460	0	0
That the ſalary of the Chief Juſtice and three Aſſiſtant Judges amounts to - - -	2800	0	0

Of

Of the Receiver-General, Surveyor-General and Secretary of the Land-Office, each 1100*l.* is	£ 3300	0	0
Of the Comptroller-General,	1000	0	0
Of the Attorney-General,	250	0	0
That the pay of the Board of Wardens for the Port of *Philadelphia* amounts, *per annum,* to	866	0	0
And of the County Lieutenants, to	966	17	6
The Treaſurer of the State is paid by commiſſions on the ſums he receives and pays, and is ſtated, on an average of four years, to amount, *per annum,* to	830	0	0
Beſides a further allowance *per annum,* as a Truſtee of the old Loan-Office, of	150	0	0

The committee, having ſtated the principal ſums paid out of the public treaſury, ſubmit to the wiſdom of the Houſe the propriety of leſſening all or any of them, and in order to bring the buſineſs properly before them, have propoſed diſtinct reſolutions upon each article.

They beg leave, at the ſame time, to ſubmit ſome obſervations which have occurred to them in the courſe of their enquiry.

The Conſtitution requires that the ſalaries of the Judges ſhould be fixed; for which reaſon, as well as that they ſhould have nothing to hope or to fear from the prevalence of party, the committee are of opinion that no alteration ſhould be made in their ſalaries during the time for which they are reſpectively appointed. It may be however neceſſary to remark, that over and above their ſalaries their expences are borne while on the circuits by the ſtate, while they are travelling from one county to another, and by the reſpective counties, during the time they ſtay in each.

By a law paſſed on the eighth day of *April,* 1785, the ſalaries of the Receiver-General, Surveyor-General and Secretary of the Land-Office were aſcertained and determined, to continue for two years from the eighth day of *May* following. The committee are of opinion that a conſiderable reduction might be made from their reſpective appointments, but that it ſhould not take place until after the expiration of the law referred to.

The ſalary of the Judge of the Admiralty is *five hundred pounds per annum,* about *two hundred pounds* only of which is paid out of the public treaſury. The term of his appointment expires early in the next year; and as there is now a committee appointed to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh admiralty juriſdiction, the continuance of that ſalary will neceſſarily come into view when the bill comes before the Houſe

The Board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia* conſiſts of ſeven members, and was inſtituted at the ſpecial requeſt of the merchants of this city, and at a time when from the extenſion of our trade, and the new ſituation in which it was placed by the revolution, rendered other regulations, than thoſe which the exiſting laws provided, neceſſary; regulations are here made, and the trade of the port conſiderably leſſened.——The committee are of opinion that a different arrangement of that Board may be made, ſo as to leſſen the expence, without injuring its uſefulneſs.

With reſpect to the county Lieutenants, the committee have only to obſerve, that public opinion has long pronounced them an unneceſſary burthen, which will no doubt have its weight with the committee appointed to reviſe the militia laws.

In conformity to the foregoing opinions and reaſonings, the committee ſubmit the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That, from and after the day of the ſalary of the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council be *one thouſand two hundred and fifty pounds per annum.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the daily pay of the Members of the General Aſſembly be *twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the daily pay of the Members of the Supreme Executive Council be *twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the daily allowance of the Delegates in Congreſs, during their attendance, be *two pounds five ſhillings.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the ſalary of the Secretary of the Supreme Executive Council, including allowance for a Clerk, be *ſix hundred pounds per annum.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the ſalaries of the Surveyor-General, Receiver-General and Secretary of the Land-Office, including allowance for Clerks, be *nine hundred pounds per annum*, each.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the ſalaries of the Truſtees of the Loan-Office be, reſpectively, *one hundred pounds per annum.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the ſalary of the Attorney-General be *two hundred pounds per annum.*

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the Board of Wardens for the port of *Philadelphia* ſhall conſiſt of five members.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Heiſter*, Mr. *Wright* and Mr. *C. Moore*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *December* 6, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Hugh Barclay*, one of the Judges of the late general election held in and for the county of *Bedford*, was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of a previous order of the Supreme Executive Council, he had delivered to that Board the ſeveral papers and documents relative to the ſaid election; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Smith* be a committee, to wait upon Council, and procure the ſeveral papers and documents mentioned in the foregoing letter.

The committee appointed *November* 17th, on that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, relative to a reſervation of certain lands bounding on lake *Erie*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *David Cloyd*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee for improving the public roads within this commonwealth, poſtponed *November* 29th laſt, and adopted the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That Commiſſioners be appointed to view and ſurvey grounds, for the ſtraiteſt and beſt road to be laid out from the *Middle Ferry* on *Schuylkill* to the borough of *Lancaſter,* and from thence to *Miller*'s ſpring, in the county of *Cumberland,* and that a return of ſuch ſurvey be made to the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Brackenridge,*

Ordered, That the remainder of the ſaid report be re-committed.

The committee appointed this forenoon, to procure the ſeveral papers and documents relative to the late general election held in and for the county of *Bedford,* reported their having performed that ſervice, and preſented to the chair the ſeveral documents by them received: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon,*

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *D. Clymer,* Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Canon,* to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon to this Houſe.

A member in his place read a bill, entituled " *An Act for the eſtabliſhment* " *of an Academy or public ſchool at the town of* Pittſburgh;" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for erecting part of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into* " *a ſeparate county*; which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to ſuſpend the powers of the Truſtees of the* " *county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for ſettling their accounts,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 7, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Mary Ripley* was read, ſtating her claim againſt the eſtate of *Francis Doyen,* late a matroſs in Captain *Gibbs Jones*'s company of artillery, and praying ſhe may be entitled to draw the depreciation due on his pay, for ſatisfaction of the aforeſaid claim; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, informing this Houſe that he hath negociated a commutation with the United States of 98,389 85-90ths dollars ſpecie, into articles of ſpecific ſupplies, required of this ſtate by acts of Congreſs of *February* and *November* 1780, to the amount of 195,434 66-90ths dollars.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, reſpecting a reſervation of certain lands bounding on lake *Erie,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council relative to a reſervation of certain lands bounding upon lake *Erie* was re-committed, report——

That by a law paſſed the 12th day of *March*, 1783, was erected and laid off a certain tract of country, bounded by the northern and weſtern boundaries of the ſtate, as donation lands to the officers and privates of this ſtate; and by the law directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, the Supreme Executive Council, after a time limited for making applications, are empowered to ſell the reſidue of the lands appropriated by the law of 1783. Your committee would obſerve, that the law empowering Council to diſpoſe of the reſidue of ſaid lands is defective, inaſmuch as they are not limited in point of time in making ſaid ſales; alſo that the mode of ſale is by auction, which experience evinces to be an unproductive way. Your committee would alſo obſerve, that they have conferred with Council on the reſervation referred to in their meſſage, and concur with them in the opinion, that it may be advantageous to the ſtate. Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to reſerve out of the lands before deſcribed a certain tract, beginning on the weſtern boundary of this ſtate, lately run by Meſſieurs *M'Clean* and *Porter*, at a point two miles ſouth of the moſt ſouthern part of lake *Erie* within this ſtate; thence due eaſt to a point, two miles eaſt of that point, where the northern boundary of this ſtate touches lake *Erie* moſt eaſtward; thence due north to the northern boundary of the ſtate; thence due weſt to the weſtern boundary; and from thence to the place of beginning. And to repeal ſo much of the law which directs the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, as empowers Council to diſpoſe of the reſidue of ſaid lands, making ſaid reſidue, after the reſervation before mentioned, ſubject to the general regulations of the Land-Office.

Your committee, in conformity to the inſtructions of the Houſe, offer a plan for a town upon lake *Erie.*

1ſt. That the extent upon the lake ſhall be at leaſt double the extent from it.

2d. That the ſtreets ſhall be at right angles to each other, if the ſituation will permit.

3d. That the ſtreets on the margin of the lake ſhall be in width, from high-water mark, one hundred feet.

4th. That the main ſtreet right angular to this ſhall be eighty feet wide.

5th. That the center ſtreet right angular to this, and parallel, as nearly as the ſituation of the ground will permit, with the ſtreet on the margin of the lake, ſhall be alſo eighty feet wide.*

6th. That the remaining ſtreets ſhall be ſixty feet, and the alleys thirty feet in width.

7th. That each lot ſhall be ſixty feet front, and two hundred and forty feet in depth.

8th. That each ſquare ſhall conſiſt of eight lots, making four hundred and eighty feet in front.

9th. That each ſquare of this front ſhall be ſubdivided into two equal ſquares, by an alley.

10th. That at the center of the town, where the two main ſtreets of eighty feet wide interſect each other, the four front lots of the four adjoining ſquares ſhall be reſerved, one for a church, one for a court-houſe and yard, one for a ſchool, and one for a market place.

11th. A convenient lot in ſome part of the town ſhall be reſerved for a gaol, and two lots, one on the eaſt, and the other on the weſt, for burying grounds.

12th. A ſufficient number of out-lots ſhall be reſerved for a common of paſture, for the uſe of the town.

13th. That the above principles ſhall govern in laying out the town, as far as the nature of the ground will permit.

Ordered, That Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Hockley,*

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be the order of the day, for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee on the memorial reſpecting the Bank of *North-America.*

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petitions of 280 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* poſtponed *December* 2d; whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, in order that no warrant ſhall iſſue for any tract of land not exceeding four hundred acres, on which an actual ſettlement is made, unleſs to thoſe who have made the ſettlement, until the 10th day of *April,* 1788.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Dale,* Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Hockley* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 8, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *David Reddick,* Eſquire, was read, ſtating that the lot of ground laid off for Colonel *William Butler,* out of the reſerved lands oppoſite to the town of *Pittſburgh,* for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a ferry acroſs the *Monongahela* river, will not anſwer the deſign of the legiſlature who generouſly granted the ſame, and ſuggeſting the propriety of inſerting a clauſe in the bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to* " *lay out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of* " *land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* " An Act for the " ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and " paying off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers " of the *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating cer- " tain other lands, to be divided off to them ſeverally at the end of the war," and thereby granting unto the ſaid *William Butler* a lot more convenient for a landing place.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Heidleberg,* in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, praying to be re-annexed to the county of *Lancaſter.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made by Mr. *Hubley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Roſs,*

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ agreeably to law, for the purpoſe of electing a member of Aſſembly for the county of *Lancaſter,* in the room of *Samuel John Atlee,* Eſquire, deceaſed.

The committee appointed *December* 6th, to arrange the ſubject matters touching the late general election in and for the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing of an academy or public ſchool in* "*the town of* Pittſburgh," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmore-"land *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* "An Act "for regulating and eſtabliſhing Admiralty juriſdiction," and the act, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for regulating and eſtabliſh-"ing Admiralty juriſdiction," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that it be the order of the day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 9, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Michael Lindemuth* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read in the late Houſe, *December* 10th, 1785, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, reſpecting the late general election held in and for the county of *Bedford*, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the letters of *Hugh Barclay* and *James Martin*, reſpecting the diſputed election of *Bedford* county, and from the papers delivered to the committee, to arrange the ſubject matters of them, beg leave to report,——

That they find, by the return of the firſt diſtrict,

Joſeph Powell has	-	92 votes
Abraham Cable	-	104

By the tally liſt of the ſecond diſtrict,

Joſeph Powell has	-	123 votes
Abraham Cable	-	3

Note. There are no returns from the third diſtrict, but from a paper which *Hugh Barclay* ſays he took for his amuſement off the tally liſt of the diſtrict returns at *Bedford* court-houſe. By this paper it appears,

Joſep Powell has	-	56 votes
Abraham Cable	-	52

By the return of the fourth diſtrict,

Joſeph Powell has	-	88 votes
Abraham Cable	-	81

No return or tally papers from the fifth diſtrict; but by the paper taken from the general return by *Hugh Barclay*, as aforeſaid,

Joſeph Powell has - 13 votes
Abraham Cable - 30

No return or tally papers from the ſixth diſtrict, but the copy taken by Mr. *Barclay*, as above, *Joſeph Powell* has - 33 votes
Abraham Cable - 16

Caſting up the ſeveral diſtricts, from the return of the judges and from the copy taken from the tally papers by *Hugh Barclay*, they ſtand thus—

Joſeph Powell - 405 votes
Abraham Cable, - 289

by which it appears *Joſeph Powell* has one hundred and ſixteen votes higher than *Abraham Cable*.

Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *D. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Canon*,

Reſolved, That the papers before the Houſe in the conteſted election for *Bedford* county, are not ſufficient to ground a determination which ſhall be the third ſitting Member for ſaid county.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for erecting part of the county of* Bedford *into a ſeparate county*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for giving, during a limited time, a right of pre-emption to the actual ſet-* "*tlers within the counties of* Waſhington *and* Fayette, *and that part of* Weſt- "moreland *which lies within the territory purchaſed of the* Indians, *at a treaty* "*held at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and* "*ſixty-eight*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* "An "Act for eſtabliſhing a court of Admiralty ſeſſions for the trial of crimes and "offences, other than piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, or "within Admiralty juriſdiction," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Adjourned till half paſt three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, December 11, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and repreſentation from *Robert Towers*, *John Donaldſon*, *Owen Jones*, the younger, and *Caleb Carmalt*, the committee appointed by the court of common pleas of the city and county of *Philadelphia* to manage the eſtate of *John Vanderen*, who is *non compos mentis*, was read, ſtating divers difficulties they labour under in the management of the affairs and effects of the ſaid *Vanderen*, and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing and empowering the petitioners, under the direction of the ſaid court, to ſell ſuch parts of the real eſtate of the ſaid *John Vanderen*, as ſhall be neceſſary to pay the preſſing demands of his creditors, and to demiſe for a term of years, not exceeding ſeven, ſuch parts of his eſtate as will yield an annual profit, and to ſecure to the *bona fide* creditors of the ſaid *Vanderen* their reſpective debts, by mortgages upon his real eſtate, and to take to themſelves grants or confirmations of divers tracts of unpatented lands, for the uſe of the ſaid *John Vanderen*, and his heirs, for ever.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of this ſtate was read, ſtating the many advantages which would reſult to the commonwealth from an eaſy and convenient communication with the weſtern counties of this ſtate, and praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and deviſe ſome mode for the improvement of inland navigation.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Hills* was read, ſetting forth, that as commiſſioners are to be appointed to lay out a new road from the city of *Philadelphia* to the borough of *Lancaſter*, and he is now and for ſome time paſt has been making a map of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, he therefore prays he may be appointed the ſurveyor for laying out the aforeſaid road, in order that he may be the better enabled to proſecute his deſign.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Moſes Moore*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers truſtees of the *German* college and charity ſchool, to be eſtabliſhed at the borough of *Lancaſter*, was read, praying to be incorporated, and that part of the donation lands, appropriated by a former Houſe of Aſſembly for the ſupport of public ſchools, may be allotted for that inſtitution.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 1ſt, to report a plan for the more eaſy and ſpeedy collection of the arrears of purchaſe money due for unpatented lands, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Union Library company of* Hatborough, *in the manor of* Moreland, *and county of* Montgomery," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed *December* 9th, the bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for regulating and eſtabliſhing Admiralty juriſdiction," and the act, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for regulating and eſtabliſhing Admiralty juriſdiction," reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing a court of Admiralty ſeſſions for the trial of offences, other than piracies and felonies, committed on the high ſeas, or within Admiralty juriſdiction,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for giving, during a limited time, a right of pre-emtion to the actual ſettlers within the counties of* Waſhington *and* Fayette, *and that part of* Weſtmoreland *which lies within the territory purchaſed of*

“ *the* Indians, *at a treaty held at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord one* “ *thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-eight,*” was read the ſecond time, and in part debated.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 12, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Andrew Wood* and *William Shannon,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* attornies of *George Wood,* late of the *Northern Liberties* of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſtating their objections againſt granting the prayer contained in the petition of *Philip Buckius,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

The petition from ſundry perſons, purchaſers and owners of lots near the city of *Philadelphia* known by the name of City Lots, read *December* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Whitehill,* to report thereon.

The petition from divers truſtees of the *German* College and Charity School eſtabliſhed at the borough of *Lancaſter,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *James Pettigrew,* read *December* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The petition of divers inhabitants of this commonwealth, ſtating the many advantages which would reſult to this ſtate from an eaſy and convenient communication with the weſtern frontiers thereof, *&c.* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Morris,* Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge,* to report thereon.

The petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Heidelberg,* in the county of *Dauphin,* read *December* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Canon* and Mr. *Miley,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Will,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned, for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council of *November* 15th, which propoſes to reduce the price of the public lands within the laſt *Indian* purchaſe, and that it be the order of that day.

The committee appointed *December* 6th, on the petition of *David Cloyd,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 24th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Waſhington* and *Fayette,* reſpecting the exciſe-laws of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed *November* 9th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Berks* and *Northumberland*, complaining of the badneſs of the road leading from *Hamburgh*, on *Schuylkill*, in the county of *Berks*, to the ſettlements in *Northumberland* county, and of the great damage done thereto by the late flood in *Schuylkill*, which has in ſome places entirely ruined the ſame, report——

That your committee, being deſirous to give relief in the premiſes ſo as not to lay an unneceſſary burthen on the people, and conſidering that the paſſage by the ſaid road is of great uſe to the inhabitants of *Northumberland* and *Berks* counties, and to the city of *Philadelphia*, and that the ſaid road paſſes through townſhips in *Berks* county which are extremely poor, and that the inhabitants thereof cannot poſſibly, under the preſent laws, bear the expence of keeping it in repair: Therefore ſubmit the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to raiſe the ſum of *two hundred pounds*, to be laid out in mending the road from *Hamburgh*, in *Berks* county, to *Northumberland* county line, by the ſaw-mill of *Conrad Minnick*, in the ſaid county of *Berks*.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the foregoing report?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Smith*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *James Moore,*
8 *Richard Willing,*
9 *Robert Ralſton,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Townſend Whelen,*
12 *George Roſs,*
13 *Joſeph Lilley,*
14 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
15 *Philip Kreemer,*

YEAS.

16 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
17 *David Davis,*
18 *Daniel Clymer,*
19 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
20 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
21 *Robert Brown,*
22 *Peter Burkhalter,*
23 *John Canon,*
24 *Frederick Antes,*
25 *Samuel Dale,*
26 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
27 *James Alliſon,*
28 *Charles Moore,*
29 *James Hockley,*
30 *Jacob Miley.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop;*
3 *John Chapman,*
4 *Valentine Upp,*
5 *Richard Thomas,*
6 *Alexander Lowrey,*
7 *Adam Hubley,*
8 *Joſeph Work,*
9 *David M'Conaughy,*

NAYS.

10 *David M'Clellan,*
11 *Adam Eichelberger,*
12 *Robert Whitehill,*
13 *Thomas Beale,*
14 *Thomas Kennedy,*
15 *David Mitchell,*
16 *John Piper,*
17 *James Barr,*
18 *Alexander Wright,*

NAYS.

19 *John M'Dowell*,
20 *John Flenniken*,
21 *Theophilus Philips*,
22 *John Gilchreeſt*,
23 *Abraham Smith*,

NAYS.

24 *James M'Calmont*,
25 *Jacob Reiff*,
26 *Robert Clark*,
27 *John Carſon*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Dale* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, appointed to report a plan for the more eaſy and ſpeedy collection of the arrears of purchaſe money due for unpatented lands, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, appointed to prepare and report a plan for the better ſecuring and more ſpeedy collection of the arrears of purchaſe money due for lands before the 10th day of *December*, 1776, report——

That by a law paſſed on the 16th day of *September*, 1785, it was provided, that every perſon holding lands by virtue of any grant, warrant, location or office right, made or accrued before the 10th day of *December*, 1776, upon which patents had not been iſſued, might, by applying to the proper officers of the land-office, obtain a patent for the lands ſo held, by giving bond for the ſums by them reſpectively due, payable in inſtalments of five equal annual payments; provided ſuch patents were taken out before the 10th day of *April*, 1787.

From enquiries made at the land-office, the committee find that the law aforeſaid has been entirely diſregarded, as no perſon has hitherto availed themſelves of the benefits held out by it.

The committee are informed that no proper method has yet been adopted to deſignate the lands under this predicament; from which cauſe it is probable ſome impoſitions have been practiſed, by perſons taking out new warrants, and thereby evading the arrears of the original.

In order to encourage the payment of the arrears aforeſaid by further indulgence, and to deſignate with certainty the property held under ſuch warrants, the committee ſubmit the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That all perſons indebted for arrears of purchaſe money before the 10th day of *December*, 1776, ſhall be entitled to receive a patent therefor, by applying to the proper officers on or before the 10th day of *April*, 1788, and paying (beſides the uſual fees of office) at leaſt one fourth of the ſums by them reſpectively due, in the paper emiſſion of 1781, in the bills of credit of 1785, or in ſpecie, and giving a mortgage for the balance that may be due, payable, with intereſt, in three equal annual payments; and that the expence of ſuch mortgage be *ten ſhillings*, and no more.

Reſolved, That all lands, of which the purchaſe money is not paid or ſecured in manner aforeſaid on or before the 10th day of *April*, 1788, ſhall be ſold by the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties in which they may lie, and the monies ariſing therefrom, or ſo much as ſhall be ſufficient to diſcharge the debt due to the ſtate, after deducting the expence of the ſale, ſhall be paid into the State Treaſury.

And in order to enable the Commiſſioners to aſcertain the lands which ſhall not be patented, That the Surveyor-General cauſe to be made out certificates of all the ſurveys made and returned into his office, beginning with the oldeſt.

That the certificates ſo made out be delivered to the Secretary of the land-office, who ſhall certify thereon, from his book of original entries, the ſums of purchaſe, and the commencement of the intereſt.

That the certificates ſo made out, and certified, be delivered to the Receiver-General, who ſhall make the neceſſary ſearches and calculations, and aſcertain the balance due by each warrantee; and ſhall deliver them over to the Comptroller-General, who ſhall direct the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties to proceed to the ſale of all ſuch lands as ſhall not be patented on or before the time aforeſaid.

That the expence incurred by the officers of the land-office, in the execution of the duties enjoined by the act to be paſſed in conformity to theſe reſolutions, ſhall be paid out of the ſtate treaſury, upon the order of the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, after having been allowed by the Comptroller-General.

That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill agreeably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Ordered, That the committee who brought in the above report, be a committee to prepare and bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Bedford *into* "*a ſeparate county*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*giving, during a limited time, a right of pre-emption to the actual ſettlers* "*within the counties of* Waſhington *and* Fayette, *and that part of* Weſtmore- "land *which lies within the territory purchaſed of the* Indians, *at the treaty* "*held at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and* "*ſixty-eight*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to leave given for that purpoſe, a member read in his place a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate a religious Chriſtian Society at the town of* "Pittſburgh, *in the county of* Weſtmoreland, *at this time under the paſtoral* "*care of the Reverend* Samuel Barr," and having preſented the ſaid bill to the chair, it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing a court of Admiralty ſeſſions* "*for the trial of crimes and offences, other than piracies and felonies, committed* "*on the high ſeas, or within Admiralty juriſdiction*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *December* 13, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from a number of ſhipwrights, and others employed in building and fitting of veſſels, on behalf of themſelves and others, was read, ſetting forth, that the duty of *eight ſhillings and four-pence* per hundred weight on all cordage, yarns and fixed rigging imported into this ſtate, in addition to the impoſt of two and an half *per centum* on the value, has not only diſcouraged the building of veſſels for citizens of the United States, but in a great meaſure deterred foreigners from having veſſels built in this ſtate, as they generally furniſhed the cordage from abroad, and praying the ſaid duty may be reduced; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The committee of accounts, to whom the claims of *George Baylor, Daniel Humphreys* and others, were referred, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee, read *November* 29th laſt, on the petition reſpecting the Bank of *North-America,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee upon the memorial reſpecting the Bank of *North-America* report——

That it is conſiſtent with the policy of government immediately to revive the charter of the Bank; but as this charter, altogether unlimited in duration, and almoſt ſo in the capital ſtock allowed to be employed, may, from theſe circumſtances become an object of ſome jealouſy and apprehenſion, your committee are of opinion that it might be expedient to qualify it, in its revival, in theſe reſpects; but in ſuch manner, as that while all reaſonable ground of objection to an inſtitution ſo eminently uſeful to the commerce and agriculture of the ſtate is removed, the Bank ſhall remain uninjured in its eſſential rights, and be left freely to its own operations.

In conformity to theſe ſentiments, they ſubmit the following reſolution.

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to reſtore the charter of the Bank of *North-America,* with proviſoes nevertheleſs therein, limiting the duration of the ſaid charter to the term of years, alſo further limiting the amount of the capital ſtock which may be employed in the ſaid Bank to Dollars.

After ſome debate thereon,

It was moved by Mr. *Brackenridge,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to repeal ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act to repeal an act of Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the Bank of *North-America;*" " alſo one other act, entituled " *An Act for preventing and puniſhing the* " *counterfeiting of the common ſeal, bank bills and bank notes of the Preſident,* " *Directors and Company of the Bank of* North-America, *and for other pur*" *poſes therein mentioned,*" as repeals the charter of the Bank of *North-America:*" Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment, and having reſumed the conſideration of the motion poſtponed this forenoon, after conſiderable debate thereon,

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, in order to introduce the ſaid motion?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Hockley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *James Moore,*
9 *Richard Willing,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Townſend Whelen,*
12 *Adam Hubley,*
13 *Joſeph Work,*
14 *Joſeph Lilly,*
15 *John Piper,*
16 *John Canon,*
17 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
18 *Samuel Wheeler.*

NAYS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
2 *Iſaac Gray,*
3 *George Logan,*
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
5 *John Chapman,*
6 *Valentine Upp,*
7 *Robert Ralſton,*
8 *Richard Thomas,*
9 *Alexander Lowrey,*
10 *George Roſs,*
11 *David M'Conaughy,*
12 *David M'Clellan,*
13 *Adam Eichelberger,*
14 *Robert Whitehill,*
15 *Thomas Beale,*
16 *Thomas Kennedy,*
17 *David Mitchell,*
18 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
19 *Philip Kreemer,*
20 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
21 *David Davis,*
22 *Daniel Clymer,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
25 *Robert Brown,*
26 *Peter Burkhalter,*
27 *Frederick Antes,*
28 *Samuel Dale,*
29 *William Findley,*
30 *James Barr,*
31 *Alexander Wright,*
32 *John M'Dowell,*
33 *John Flenniken,*
34 *James Alliſon,*
35 *Theophilus Philips,*
36 *John Gilchreeſt,*
37 *Abraham Smith,*
38 *James M'Calmont,*
39 *Charles Moore,*
40 *James Hockley,*
41 *Jacob Reiff,*
42 *Robert Clark,*
43 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the report being reſumed for conſideration,

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*

YEAS.

5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *George Logan*,
9 *Samuel Foulke*,
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Robert Ralſton*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Thomas*,
18 *Townſend Wheelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *George Roſs*,
23 *David M'Conaughy*,
24 *David M'Clellan*,
25 *Joſeph Lilley*,
26 *Adam Eichelberger*,
27 *Daniel Clymer*,
28 *John Canon*,
29 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
30 *Charles Moore*,
31 *Samuel Wheeler*,
32 *James Hockley*,
33 *Jacob Reiff*.

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray*,
2 *Robert Whitehill*,
3 *Thomas Beale*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *David Davis*,
10 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
11 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
12 *Robert Brown*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

15 *Frederick Antes*,
16 *Samuel Dale*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John M'Dowell*,
21 *John Flenniken*,
22 *James Alliſon*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *Abraham Smith*,
26 *James M'Calmont*,
27 *Robert Clark*,
28 *Jacob Miley*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hockley*, be a com mittee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “
“ *Supplement to the Act*, *entituled* “ An Act for erecting part of the coun
“ of *Lancaſter* into a ſeparate county,” which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *December* 14, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſquire, was read, informin the Houſe, that on the ſixth of *December* inſtant, Major General *Jam Irvine*, the Honorable *Charles Pettit* and Colonel *Samuel Miles*, Eſquires, we duly elected Truſtees of the Univerſity of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, in th room of the Honorable *William Auguſtus Atlee*, Eſquire, Doctor *William Shi*

p

pen and *Frederick A. Muhlenberg*, Eſquire, whoſe places were vacated by non-attendance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of 773 inhabitants of this ſtate, read *December* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The petition and repreſentation of *Robert Towers* and others, the committee of the eſtate of *John Vanderen*; who is *non compos mentis*, read *December* 11th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, of the 27th day of *October* laſt, with the report of the Commiſſioners met at *Annapolis*, for the purpoſe of taking into conſideration the trade and commerce of the United States, *&c.* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *C. Moore*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, read *December* 12th, on the petition of *David Cloyd*, late Treaſurer of the county of *Cheſter*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to exonerate the ſaid *David Cloyd* from the payment of the ſum of *two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings* ſpecie, of which he was robbed.

Ordered, That the members from the county of *Cheſter* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petitions of 553 inhabitants of the counties of *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, read *December* 12th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, be a committee, to report ſuch alterations and amendments in the exciſe laws as they may think neceſſary.

Reſolved, That Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill, to collect into one view the fees allowed to the ſeveral officers of this ſtate, and to report ſuch alterations and amendments as may be neceſſary.

Reſolved, That Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill to regulate the fees of the Deputy Surveyors of this ſtate, ſo as to apportion them conformably to the circumſtances and nature of the ſervice.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act " for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late " war have been wounded, or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, " or of the United States," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Union Library Company of* " Hatborough, *in the manor of* Moreland, *in the county of* Montgomery," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate a religious chriſtian ſociety of the " town of* Pittſburgh, *in the county of* Weſtmoreland, *at this time under the " paſtoral care of the Reverend* Samuel Barr," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the relief of* Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, " John Harmar, Adam Alberger, Edward Dickinſon *and* Cato Hill, *inſol-" vent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Robinſon,* ſeconded by Mr. *Will,*

Ordered, That the following names of inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the ſaid city and county, be inſerted therein, *viz. George Knox, Charles Brown, Elias Roſa, Harman Courter, Dennijon Hume* and *Thomas Harriſon*; and the bill having thereupon been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 15, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from *Joſeph Powell* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath been duly elected a Repreſentative for the county of *Bedford,* and praying he may be admitted to take his ſeat, or that an order may iſſue requiring the attendance of the Judges preſiding at the different diſtrict elections, and to produce to this Houſe the papers and other documents touching ſaid election.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 30th laſt, on the report of the committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly appointed to confer with the Honorable Mr. *King* and Mr. *Monroe,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 30th laſt, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee of accounts, read *December* 13th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer in favor of *Daniel Humphreys,* for printing, &c. 2000 copies of the conſtitution, *twelve pounds eighteen ſhillings and nine-pence*; and for news-papers for one year, ending the 8th of *December, five pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence.*

In favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* for news-papers to the 1ſt of *November, fifteen pounds ſix ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Bradford,* for balance of his account, including news-papers to the 30th inſtant, *two hundred ninety-one pounds five ſhillings.*

In favor of *George Baylor,* for his attendance as a witneſs reſpecting a conteſted election for the county of *Lancaſter, four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Samuel Bryan,* for four days ſervice as Clerk of the General Aſſembly, *four pounds.*

In favor of *Francis Bailey*, for fifteen volumes of the laws, and for newspapers to the 1ſt of *January* next, *fifty-eight pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Leibert* and *Billmeyer*, for printing the *German* minutes of the third ſeſſion of the tenth General Aſſembly, ſixteen ſheets and an half, at *three pounds* per ſheet, *forty-nine pounds ten ſhillings.* And for three columns of bills publiſhed for conſideration, *two pounds eleven ſhillings.*

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſub-" urbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark*, for mak-" ing the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and high-" ways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants " thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein " mentioned ;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-Ame-" rica," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* " Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 16, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Samuel Vaughan*, Eſquire, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The PETITION *of* SAMUEL VAUGHAN, *of the city of* Philadelphia, *Eſquire*,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT *Benjamin Hallowell*, late of the town of *Boſton*, in the ſtate of *Maſſachuſetts*, Eſquire, deceaſed, was in his life time ſeized in fee of a conſiderable real eſtate in the aforeſaid ſtate, as one of the twelve Proprietors of a very extenſive tract of country on the *Kennebeck* river, called the *Kennebeck Purchaſe*, and by his will deviſed a portion thereof to his daughter *Sarah*, who intermarried with your petitioner in the year 1748 : That your petitioner, from the commencement to the concluſion of the late war between the United States of *America* and *Great-Britain*, reſided in *London*, where the whole tenor of his conduct evidenced a ſteady and active attachment to the juſt rights and privileges of the citizens of *America* ; as a ſmall proof of which, one of his ſons came to *Philadelphia* during the war, and is now an inhabitant of the ſaid city in full citizenſhip, and your petitioner, together with his wife and family, followed ſhortly after : That he ſome

time

time ago purchaſed at public auction 3200 acres of land, a part of *Kennebeck Purchaſe* aforeſaid, which had been conveyed by the aforeſaid *Benjamin Hallowell* to his ſon *Briggs*, and took the conveyance in the name of his ſon, *Samuel Vaughan*.

Your petitioner further ſhews, that in the month of *May*, 1785, he purchaſed five tickets in the land lottery of this ſtate, and took out the warrants in the names of five of his children, namely, for *Rebecca*, *Sarah*, *Barbara* and *Samuel* 500 acres each, and for *Charles* 891 acres, in all 2891 acres of land, lying in the new purchaſe: That neither your petitioner, nor any of his five children above-named, have taken the oath of allegiance to this commonwealth, having been adviſed, that by doing ſo he might endanger a conſiderable real property that he has in the dominions of the King of *Great-Britain*; and he has been lately informed, that neither he nor his children aforeſaid can hold or transfer their real property in the United States, without the aid of the legiſlature.

He therefore humbly craves leave of the Honorable Houſe, under his peculiar circumſtances, to bring in a bill to naturalize him and his children, or at leaſt to enable them to hold and alien any real eſtate, purchaſed and obtained as before mentioned; or that the Honorable Houſe would grant him ſuch relief in the premiſes, as to their wiſdom and goodneſs may ſeem beſt.

And your petitioner will pray, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be the order of the day for the ſecond reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers* "*to the Bank of* North-America."

A petition from *James Moore*, late Major Commandant of the troops ſtationed at *Wyoming*, was read, ſetting forth, that during his continuance in that ſervice he acted as Clothier, Paymaſter, *&c.* to the troops under his command, and for which he hath received no compenſation, therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from 169 freeholders and inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and the townſhips of *Paſſyunk* and *Moyamenſing*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill authoriſing certain Commiſſioners, diſintereſted, to lay out ſuch ſtreets in the diſtrict aforeſaid, and ſuch roads in the townſhips aforeſaid, as they ſhall think neceſſary; and for enabling the Supreme Executive Council to eſtabliſh and open ſuch and ſo many of them, and at ſuch times, as they upon due conſideration ſhall think will be of public utility.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of *Fiſhing-creek*, *Wapwollopin* and *Neſcopeck*, were read, ſetting forth, that the road laid out from the *Water-Gap* of *Lehigh* to *Wyoming*, by the Commiſſioners appointed for the purpoſe, will not anſwer the deſign of the Legiſlature, and ſuggeſting that a road laid out and opened from *Union-mills*, the preſent higheſt navigable water of *Lehigh*, to communicate with the eaſt branch of *Suſquehanna* ſomewhere about *Wapwollopin* or *Neſcopeck*, would not only afford a communication equally near and better to *Wyoming*, but accommodate all the preſent and encourage the future ſettlements of that extenſive country; therefore praying the Houſe to direct a re-ſurvey of the road already laid out, or grant them a ſeparate road.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Powell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

Ordered, That *Hugh Barclay*, Eſquire, one of the Judges of the late general election of Repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*, be called to the bar of this Houſe on the eighteenth day of the preſent month, to anſwer ſuch queſtions as ſhall be aſked him concerning the ſaid election.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *Jonas Philips* and *Samuel Delap*, *November* 18th, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee to whom was re-committed, *December* 6th, the reſidue of the report of the committee appointed to digeſt and report a plan for improving the public roads within this commonwealth, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent* "*bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet "*of the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate and endow a* German *College and Charity School in the* "*borough and county of* Lancaſter, *in this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to regulate the militia of this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the aforeſaid bill be immediately printed, for the uſe of the members, and that *Thurſday* next be the order of the day for the ſecond reading of the ſame bill.

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into their conſideration that part of the meſſage from the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council of the 7th of *September* laſt, to the late Houſe of Aſſembly, which recommends a compenſation to Colonel *Francis Mentges*, Inſpector-General of the militia, for ſervices performed, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *D. Clymer* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, December 18, 1786. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, December* 16, 1786.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting to you the encloſed papers, with a requeſt of Council that you will be pleaſed to lay them before the General Aſſembly.

I am, SIR,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient
And very humble Servant,
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, *Preſident.*

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church called St. *John's*, at *York-Town*, in the county of *York*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Emanuel Bartling* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath conſtructed a tub bellows, for the uſe of Blackſmiths and others, on a new and better plan than any heretofore invented, and praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of granting to him, his heirs and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and vending all bellows of the ſame conſtruction.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners of lands in the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *December* 16th, and praying a road may be laid out and opened from the *Suſquehanna*, at or near the mouth of *Neſcopeck* creek, to the water carriage of the river *Lehigh*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers ſtockholders in the Bank of *North-America* were preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The PETITION of the Subſcribers, Stockholders in the BANK *of* NORTH-AMERICA,

Moſt Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT your petitioners have received, with great ſatisfaction, the information that your Honorable Houſe is diſpoſed to eſtabliſh the Bank of *North-America*, upon principles that will at the ſame time ſecure the rights of the ſtockholders, and promote the public good of this ſtate, and, through that, of the United States.

That your petitioners, while they approve of the reſolve of your Honorable Houſe of the 13th inſtant, ſo far as it goes, cannot think themſelves juſtifiable in concealing their conviction, that it does not comprehend all the regulations that your petitioners apprehend will be neceſſary, as well for the ſtockholders, as the public. Your petitioners have conſidered this ſubject, and are inclined to believe that the credit of *England* (carried to as high a pitch as that of any nation in *Europe*) is in a conſiderable degree owing to the wiſe regulations and cautions in their bank: Wherefore they beg leave to recommend to the Honorable Houſe a particular attention to the laws concerning that inſtitution, and eſpecially in the following particulars:

1ſt. That foreign influence (which is carefully guarded againſt in all banks known to them) be excluded in the choice of Directors of the bank, by rejecting votes not delivered in perſon.

2d. That no perſon ſhould be capable of exerciſing the office of a Director, who is not intereſted in the well being of the bank, by holding four ſhares therein.

3d. That no perſon ſhall be entitled to vote for Directors, or other purpoſes, who has not been a ſtockholder therein for ſome given time before the election, whereby transfers of ſtock to ſerve election purpoſes may be avoided.

4th. That no ſtockholder ſhall be entitled to more than one vote, a contrary practice being unknown in any *European* bank.

Your petitioners have viewed with great concern the agitation of the public mind, during the time this ſubject has been litigated before the bar of this and former Houſes of Aſſembly; and being entirely dependent on the general welfare of their country, they pray that this Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to adopt ſuch meaſures upon this intereſting ſubject, as will quiet the minds of the people at large, by putting the bank upon a footing that conforms with their general habits and opinions, and not oppoſed to the principles of a free government.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

In obedience to the order of this Houſe of the 16th inſtant, *Hugh Barclay*, Eſquire, one of the Judges at the late general election for the county of *Bedford*, appeared at the bar of the Houſe, and having anſwered ſuch queſtions as were aſked him touching the ſaid election, was diſmiſſed from further attendance.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*further Supplement to the acts made for the relief of inſolvent debtors,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the reſidue of the donation lands, reſerving part* "*thereof for a town on lake* Erie, *to the uſe of the commonwealth,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, December 19, 1786. A. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment; but Mr. Speaker, through indiſpoſition, being unable to attend the ſervice of the ſtate, it was moved and ſeconded to adjourn: Whereupon

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 20, 1786. A. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment; but Mr. Speaker continuing indiſpoſed,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 21, 1786. A. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment; and Mr. Speaker ſtill continuing indiſpoſed,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, December 22, 1786. A. M.

A number of members, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Speaker was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

PHILADELPHIA, *December* 21ſt, 1786.

GENTLEMEN,

THE buſineſs of the General Aſſembly having been interrupted for ſeveral days by my ſickneſs, and it being uncertain how long my want of health may prevent me from attending in Aſſembly, I think it a duty I owe to the community, to reſign my appointment of Speaker of the General Aſſembly of *Pennſylvania,*—and I do hereby reſign the ſaid appointment.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

To the Members of the General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania, *convened at the State-Houſe, in the city of* Philadelphia.

Reſolved, That his reſignation be accepted.

Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

The Houſe proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and, the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Gerardus Wynkoop,* Eſquire, was duly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair, was qualified to the faithful diſcharge of the duties of his appointment.

A petition from the officers and ſtanding committee of the ſtate ſociety of the *Cincinnati* of *Pennſylvania* was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Arthur Donaldſon* was read, referring to his petition read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *January* 23d, 1784, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition and remonſtrance from divers freeholders of the weſtern part, and others, inhabitants of the town of *York*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law, until they be fully acquainted with the principal matters contained in the ſaid bill.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Robert Thorne*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 8th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The committee appointed *December* 14th, on the petition of the committee of the eſtate of *John Vanderen*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 4th, on the memorial of divers citizens of *Pennſylvania*, incloſing a memorial and petition intended to have been preſented by the late *Samuel John Atlee*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 12th, on the petition of ſundry perſons, purchaſers and owners of lots near the city of *Philadelphia*, known by the name of city lots, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate and diſcharge* David Cloyd, *Treaſurer of the ſtate taxes in and for the county of* Cheſter, *from the payment of* two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings *ſpecie, of which he was robbed*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, having obtained leave, preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the Act, entituled* "An Act for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for reducing the expences of government*," which was read the firſt time and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to enlarge the time, on certain terms, for paying or ſecuring the debts due to the ſtate for unpatented lands, held by location or other office right obtained before the tenth day of* December, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and for the effectually deſignating ſuch lands*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the regulation of Bankruptcy," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and* Joſeph Baldwin *in and* "*to a ferry over* Neſhaminey *creek, in the county of* Bucks, *on the main road* "*from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them to maintain a bridge acroſs* "*the ſaid creek, at the ſaid place,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire, electe da Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, notifying his acceptance of the ſaid appointment, was read.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation of juries*;" and the act, entituled "*An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein*;" and praying ſo much of the ſaid acts, as relates to the payment of jurymens wages, and the pay to the judges, inſpectors and clerks of the general elections, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 12th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of this commonwealth, reſpecting an eaſy communication with the weſtern frontiers of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee appointed to deviſe on ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year, read *December* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof, from* "*damage by gunpowder,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of* " September *laſt, entituled* " An Act for erecting the northern part of the " county of *Northumberland* into a ſeparate county," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, December 23, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſtating many grievances they labour under, by reaſon of the courts of juſtice in and for the ſaid county being held at the town of *Sunbury*, and praying the petitions preſented to former Houſes of Aſſembly, for a removal of the ſeat of juſtice from the ſaid town, may be taken into conſideration by this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from ſundry inhabitants of the lower end of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſtating the grievances they are ſubjected to on account of the exorbitant fees exacted by divers juſtices of the peace of the ſaid county, and praying this Houſe to direct proſecutions to be commenced againſt thoſe Magiſtrates.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bucks* was read, ſuggeſting divers alterations in the preſent mode of aſſeſſing and collecting the public taxes, and praying the Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *C. Moore,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Joſeph Hugg,* of the ſtate of *New-Jerſey,* was read, ſetting forth divers circumſtances relative to a ſeizure of the ſloop *Hannah,* with her cargo, deſtined to be tranſported to *New-York,* in aid and ſupport of the enemies of the United States during the late war, and ſtating certain proceedings had at law thereupon againſt the petitioner, and others concerned with him in making the above ſeizure; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, to open the judgment obtained againſt him in the court of common pleas for the county of *Philadelphia,* at the ſuit of *John Burrows,* and to entitle him to a trial in the ſame cauſe, and in the mean time to ſtay all further proceedings againſt his bail.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, with its encloſures, read *December* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Morris,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *C. Moore,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Brackenridge* be added to the committee appointed *November* 24th laſt, on the petition of the Miniſter, Elders, ſeveral Truſtees and other members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia,* in the room of Mr. Speaker.

The petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *J. Moore,* Mr. *M'Conaughy,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley,* to report thereon.

The petition of the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church called St. *John*'s, at *York-Town,* in the county of *York,* read *December* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition of *Emanuel Bartling,* read *December* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

The petition of divers owners of lands in the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne,* read *December* 18th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee on the petition of the committee of the eſtate of *John Vanderen*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of their petition.

The report of the committee on the petitions of *Jonas Philips* and *Samuel Delap*, read *December* 16th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petitions of *Jonas Philips* and *Samuel Delap*, report——

That the prayer of the ſaid petitioners neceſſarily led your committee to take a more enlarged view of the ſubject of auctions and vendues, than the petitioners particularly expreſſed; and they are clearly of opinion, that the limiting of this buſineſs within the city of *Philadelphia*, and the vicinity thereof, as at preſent directed by law, is inconſiſtent with the ſpirit of commerce, and of our free government; and that the acts of General Aſſembly, which regulate auctions and vendues within the ſaid city and neighbourhood, ſhould be altered.

The committee are likewiſe of opinion, that ſubjecting the effects of perſons who may become bankrupts, or of goods damaged at ſea, and ſold for the benefit of the owners or underwriters, operates additional hardſhips on the ſufferers, and ought to be provided againſt.

The committee are further of opinion, that ſubjecting the citizens of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia* to a tax, from which the citizens of every other part of the ſtate are exempt, appears inconſiſtent with that equality which ſhould direct the operations of government in laying taxes on the people, and that the laws for regulating vendues ought in that reſpect to be amended.

In conformity with theſe opinions, your committee offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the Preſident, or in his abſence the Vice-Preſident, in Council, upon application to them made, may authoriſe, by licence under the leſs ſeal, ſuitable perſons to uſe and follow the occupation of Auctioneers in the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties*; each perſon ſo licenced to renew the licence ſo to be iſſued yearly; and before ſuch licence be granted, ſuch perſon to become bound to the commonwealth, with two ſufficient ſecurities (to be approved of by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council) in the reſpective ſums of pounds, for the faithful accounting with the Comptroller-General, and full payment to the State Treaſurer, of the duty of *two per cent.* on all goods, wares, merchandize and property, excepting as is herein after excepted, by them reſpectively ſold at public auction; that the duties payable to the ſtate ſhall have a priority over all other debts, and be firſt diſcharged; and afterwards, for the due and faithful accounting with and ſatisfying the lawful demands of ſuch perſons, as ſhall entruſt them with their goods or effects to be ſold at auction or vendue.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of no duty ſhall accrue or become due to the commonwealth, upon the ſale by auction or vendue of any goods, wares, merchandize or property, belonging to a bankrupt, which ſhall be ſold by virtue of an order of the Commiſſioners of bankruptcy, or on legal proceſs by the Sheriff or Coroner; nor on goods or effects which ſhall have received damage at ſea, or on the water, after ſurvey thereof by the Wardens of the port of *Philadelphia*, or of perſons duly qualified in any other part of the ſtate; nor on any goods or effects, the property of the United States of *America*; nor on printed books, horſes, neat cattle, ſheep or ſwine, houſhold goods or wearing apparel that has been in uſe or wear.

Reſolved, That no goods, wares or merchandize (other than thoſe already enumerated) ſhall be ſold in any county within this ſtate, except by perſons who ſhall receive licences from the Juſtices of the quarter ſeſſions of the county wherein they reſide, which licences they ſhall be authoriſed to grant, upon receiving ſecurity, *&c.* and that all goods, wares and merchandize, ſo to be diſpoſed of, ſhall be ſubject to the ſame duties as goods of the like kind ſold in the city of *Philadelphia,* the diſtrict of *Southwark,* or townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties.*

Reſolved, That no licence ſhall be granted to any perſon, authoriſing them to ſell goods by public auction within the city of *Philadelphia,* the diſtrict of *Southwark,* or townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties,* till they ſhall have paid into the ſtate treaſury the ſum of   pounds, and a like ſum at every time of renewal.

That licences may be granted for the ſale of books only, and that there be paid for ſuch licences   pounds, and the like ſum for the renewal annually.

That the bonds to be yearly executed, in purſuance of the act to be paſſed conformable to theſe reſolutions, ſhall be binding for the term of five years, and no longer; and if not proſecuted within that time, to be void.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill conformable to the foregoing reſolutions, and to repeal the ſeveral acts of General Aſſembly for regulating vendues, now in force.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Hiltzheimer,* Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to the laws which have been or may be enacted by this Houſe.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the committee of the eſtate of* John Vanderen (*who is* non " compos mentis) *to ſell and convey ſome parts of his real and perſonal eſtate,* "*for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other parts of his real eſtate,* "*to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe for a term of years parts* "*of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate and endow the* German *College* "*and Charity-ſchool in the borough and county of* Lancaſter, *in this ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the " more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* "An Act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who, in the courſe of the late war, have been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the United States," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend the powers of the truſtees of the county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for ſettling their accounts,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock on *Tueſday* next, A. M.

Tueſday, December 26, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John D. Coxe,* Eſquire, Aſſiſtant to the committees in draughting bills to be reported to the Houſe, was read, containing a reſignation of his appointment, becauſe it required that his whole time during the ſitting of Aſſembly ſhould be devoted to fulfil the duties of that employment, which entirely interfered with his profeſſional engagements.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Brackenridge,* and ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,* in the words following, *viz.*

That a committee be appointed, to conſider the powers exerciſed by the officers of the Land-Office in hearing and deciding on caveats entered with them, and granting patents accordingly, and whether trials in theſe caſes ought not to be by a court and jury, and if ſo, in what manner it ſhall be brought before them, and to report on theſe points.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the foregoing motion was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to make report thereon.

The Houſe reſumed for conſideration the report of the committee on ways and means, poſtponed *December* 18th, and having debated the ſame, it was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of ways and means beg leave to report,——

That your committee, having applied to the Comptroller-General for information relative to the objects of their appointment, have received from him a return of the debts and expences of this commonwealth, and of the funds and revenues of the ſame, which is hereunto annexed.

That by the ſaid return there appears to be a deficiency of funds for diſcharging the various engagements of the ſtate, of £ 29,521 9 6.

That there appears to be due to the ſtate for arrearages of taxes, - - - - -	£ 444,381 18 2
Which is charged with ſundry ſums to the amount of	261,125 15 7
So that there remains a balance of - -	183,256 2 7

The Comptroller-General having ſtated this balance as a fund out of which the abovementioned deficiency might be ſupplied, your committee made application to the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council, as alſo to the Comptroller and Attorney-General, to know whether the ſaid arrearages were in collection, and whether any alterations were neceſſary in the laws now exiſting for enforcing the collection thereof. The information obtained they have delivered over to the committee appointed to deviſe modes of leſſening the expence of aſſeſſing and collecting public taxes.

That your committee, conceiving it would be unjuſt to levy new contributions from all the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, to ſupply deficiencies which ariſe from the neglect of a part, have not conſidered of any new ways and means to ſupply the aforeſaid deficiency.

That your committee, having carefully examined the ſeveral exiſting requiſitions of Congreſs, obſerve, that all quotas laid on *Pennſylvania*, previous to the 27th *September*, 1785, are fully diſcharged, except a balance of old continental money, which they have good reaſon to believe will ſpeedily be paid off.

That of the requiſitions of the 27th *September*, 1785, for 3,000,000 dollars, the eſtimate for current expenditures was 404,555. The whole eſtimate amounted to 3,649,880; from which was deducted, for means then in the power of Congreſs, 649,880. So that theſe means were more than equal to the payment of the current expenditures, and the whole requiſition might be conſidered as being for payment of the public debts: But to avoid any queſtion on that ſubject, your committee have conſidered thoſe expenditures as charged on the requiſition. The quota of *Pennſylvania* was 410,378 dollars, out of 3,000,000, and conſequently the proportions of that quota were,

For payment of the public debts, - - -	355,038
And for payment of the current expenditures, - -	55,340
Amount of the quota of 27th of *September*, 1785, - Dol.	410,378

That of the requiſition of the 2d of *Auguſt*, 1786, for -		3,777,062
The eſtimate for payment of the public debts is	3,330,187	
And for the current expenditures -	446,875	
		3,777,062
The quota of *Pennſylvania* in this requiſition is - -		516,673
The proportion therefore for payment of public debts is - - - -	455,545	
The proportion for public expenditures is -	61,128	
		516,673

That this commonwealth having been reduced to the neceſſity of aſſuming the payment of a very conſiderable part of the public debt, and thereby become the creditor of the United States, your committee conceive ſhe has an indiſputable right to liquidate the intereſt which is due and payable to *Pennſylvania* by the United States with the requiſitions for ſupplies to pay the public debts; and although ſtrict juſtice might alſo admit of oppoſing ſuch demand for intereſt due to the ſtate againſt the whole of the requiſitions, your committee, conſidering the evils which might happen to the fœderal government from a want of means to defray the current expenditures, have deemed it moſt adviſeable to conſider thoſe objects ſeparately.

That from the aforeſaid return of the Comptroller-General it appears that the arrearages of intereſt due by the United States to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* on the 31ſt of *December*, 1784, was - - - -			772,660
And that one year's intereſt, payable out of the requiſitions of the 2d *Auguſt*, 1786, is - - - -			404,846 86/90
Being the amount due to *Pennſylvania* for intereſt 31ſt *December*, 1785, - - - - -			1,177,506 86/90
The proportion of the quota of *Pennſylvania* for payment of the debt, by requiſition of *September* 1785, is as above ſtated - - - -		355,038	
The proportion of *Auguſt* 1786, is -		455,545	
		810,583	
Of this by the Regiſter's ſtatement there is paid - - -	200,824 70/90		
And by the Comptroller-General's return paid in *October* laſt -	37,026 33/90		
		237,851 13/90	
		Deduct	572,731 77/90
Due to *Pennſylvania* for intereſt by the United States,			604,775 9/90
Beſides this there will be due on the 31ſt *December*, 1786,			404,846 86/90
That the proportion of the quota of *Pennſylvania* for defraying current expenditures, by the requiſition of *September*, 1785, is, as above, - -			55,340
The proportion, by the requiſition of *Auguſt* 1786, is -			61,128
And the quota of the *extra* requiſition of *October* 1786, is			72,504
Amount, payable in ſpecie by the 1ſt day of *June*, 1787,			188,972
It appears, by the Regiſter's ſtatement, that there is already paid, - - -		73,346 64/90	
And by the Comptroller-General's return, there was paid to the Receiver, -	42,534 53/90		
And paid to penſioners, chargeable to the United States, -	33,882 55/90		
		76,417 18/90	
	Deduct	-	149,763 82/90
Remains therefore a balance, payable by the 1ſt of *June*, 1787, of - - -			Dol. 39,208 8/90
Equal to *Pennſylvania* currency, - -			£ 14,703 0 8

To provide for this ſum, your committee propoſe that a duty of per buſhel be laid on all ſalt, and a duty of per pound be laid on all coffee, imported into this commonwealth from and after the day of next, and that the ſaid duties be payable in ſpecie only.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Gray* be a committee, to bring in a bill in conformity to the laſt paragraph.

The bill, entituled, " *An Act to enlarge the time, on certain terms, for pay-" ing or ſecuring the debts due to this ſtate for unpatented lands, held by location " or other office right obtained before the tenth day of* December, *one thouſand " ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, and for the more effectually deſignating ſuch " lands,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſaid bill be tranſcribed for a third reading, " and in the mean time printed for public conſideration?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *Thomas Mifflin*,
7 *Iſaac Gray*,
8 *William Robinſon*, jun.
9 *John Salter*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *John Chapman*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Robert Ralſton*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,

YEAS.

17 *Richard Thomas*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *George Roſs*,
23 *David M'Conaughy*,
24 *David M'Clellan*,
25 *Joſeph Lilley*,
26 *Adam Eichelberger*,
27 *Daniel Clymer*,
28 *John Canon*,
29 *Charles Moore*,
30 *Samuel Wheeler*,
31 *Jacob Reiff*.

NAYS.

1 *Robert Whitehill*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *David Mitchell*,
5 *Philip Kreemer*,
6 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
7 *David Davis*,
8 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
9 *Robert Brown*,
10 *Peter Burkhalter*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *Frederick Antes*,
13 *Samuel Dale*,
14 *William Findley*,

NAYS.

15 *James Barr*,
16 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John M'Dowell*,
19 *John Flenniken*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Theophilus Philips*,
22 *John Gilchreeſt*,
23 *Abraham Smith*,
24 *James M'Calmont*,
25 *Robert Clark*,
26 *Jacob Miley*,
27 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for reducing the expences of government*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to exonerate and diſcharge* David Cloyd, *late " Treaſurer of ſtate taxes in and for the county of* Cheſter, *from the payment of*

" two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings *ſpecie, of which he was robbed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *November* 29th laſt, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to amend and explain the act, entituled* " An Act to " encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional " duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with " them," *and for the further encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and,

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the committee of the eſtate of* John " Vanderen (*who is* non compos mentis) *to ſell and convey ſome parts of his " real and perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other " parts of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe " for a term of years parts of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The honorable *Gerardus Wynkoop,* Eſquire, Speaker, addreſſed himſelf to the Houſe, and informed them, that he was very ſenſible he had been elected to that honorable office during the indiſpoſition of the late Speaker, but as that gentleman's health was in a great meaſure reſtored, he requeſted leave to reſign the ſaid office of Speaker, which he accordingly did.

Whereupon the Clerk demanded of the Houſe, whether they accepted the ſaid reſignation, and whether they will now proceed to the election of another Speaker? which having been anſwered unanimouſly in the affirmative, they immediately proceeded to the election, by ballot, when the honorable *Thomas Mifflin,* Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected, and accordingly placed in the chair.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, December 27, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Thomas Paine,* Eſquire, was read, informing the Houſe, that he has depoſited at his Excellency the Preſident's a model for the conſtructing of bridges of a ſingle arch, to the extent of three or four hundred feet, or probably more, and intended to have preſented an invitation to this Houſe to have taken a view of it, as the erecting of bridges where the rivers are ſubject to great incumbrances of ice and freſhes is of conſiderable importance to many parts of this country; but that, for the greater convenience of the members in viewing it, he will cauſe it to be conveyed to the State-houſe to-morrow morning; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That this Houſe accept of the ſaid propoſal.

A letter from the Reverend *William Marſhall, John M'Culloch, John M'Calliſter* and *Thomas Vowell,* in behalf of themſelves and others, members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying that the members added yeſterday to the committee appointed on their memorial and petition, *November* 24th laſt, may be ſtruck off, or two more added thereto;

hereto; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond ime: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

Ordered, That the before mentioned committee be diſcharged.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Calmont*,

Ordered, That the ſaid memorial and petition be referred to Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M‘Clellan*, Mr. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Mawhorter*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Antis*, Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *Alliſon*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, Mr. *M‘Calmont*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Hall*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 29th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, to whom was referred the report of the committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, appointed to confer with the Honorable Mr. *Monroe* and Mr. *King*, read *December* 15th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the report of a committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, appointed to confer with the Honorable Delegates on their miſſion from Congreſs, beg leave to report——

That they have examined the object of the ſaid report with the attention due to its importance:

That they cannot help conſidering the debt of the United States in one aggregate point of view, and are of opinion that the principles of juſtice require like payment of every part, whether the ſame be due to foreigners or citizens:

That there appears to have been due to the citizens of this commonwealth a ſum which ſhe has undertaken to pay them, and which probably amounts nearly to her proportion of the whole debt.

That the appropriation of funds for that purpoſe is of ſuch nature, that the report now referred to your committee (and which was adopted by the laſt Aſſembly) declares, “ an immediate compliance with the recommenda-“ tion would involve a breach of the faith of this ſtate, pledged to the pub-“ lic creditors, citizens thereof, unleſs at the ſame time ſome further and “ other funds were provided for payment of the intereſt due and which ſhall “ become due to them:”

That in the opinion of your committee, the magnitude of the appropriation juſt mentioned renders the proviſion alluded to in the report impracticable.

That in the opinion of your committee, it would neither be juſt nor prudent to call on the citizens of *Pennſylvania* for payment of taxes, to diſcharge the money due to others, while that which is due to themſelves is unprovided for.

Your committee therefore propoſe the following reſolution:

That the Delegates of this ſtate in Congreſs be inſtructed to aſſure the United States of the ſincere deſire of *Pennſylvania*, to make an adequate proviſion for all the debts of the Union; that this deſire, fully evinced by her ready compliance with paſt requiſitions, will equally operate on future determinations; that the diſtreſs of her citizens, to whom large ſums were due, and who were at the ſame time compelled to pay their proportion of ſupplies for the current expenditures, called loudly for relief; that having waited in vain for a general aſſent to the meaſures propoſed by Congreſs, until the grievance complained of could no longer be borne, it became neceſſary to aſſume the payment of thoſe ſums which were due by the union to her own citizens; that in conſequence, the funds now required by the United States were appropriated to this object, and the debts due to individuals were transferred to the ſtate, whereby *Pennſylvania* became the creditor of the union; that this Houſe cannot divert the funds ſpecified from the appropriation formerly made, until ſuch ſolid proviſion be made for all the public debts, as that the annual intereſt payable to *Pennſylvania* will be a certain and ſufficient fund for diſcharging thoſe ſums, which ſhe is bound in the manner abovementioned to pay to her citizens, but that *Pennſylvania* will in the mean time account for her full quota of the ſums neceſſary to diſcharge the intereſt, and inſtalments of principal, due or to become due by the United States, and, after deducting therefrom the intereſt ſhe is entitled to receive, will regularly pay any balance that may remain due on ſuch quota.

the [illegible] [illegible]rieve

The bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of the Subſcribers* "*to the Bank of* North-America," was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smith*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and that to-morrow be the order of the day for debating the ſame by paragraphs.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for the "regulation of Bankruptcy," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*A further Supplement to the acts made for the relief of* "*inſolvent debtors*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, "John Harmar, Adam Alberger, Edward Dickinſon, George Knox, Charles "Brown, Elias Roſa, Harman Courter, Denniſon Hume, Thomas Harriſon, William Ritchie *and* Cato Hill, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol* "*of the city and county of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to ſuſpend the powers of the Truſtees of the county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for ſettling their accounts.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of* September *laſt, entituled* "An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of *Northumberland* into a ſeparate county."

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An extract from the minutes of the Supreme Executive Council, with its incloſure, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, December* 21, 1786.

A LETTER from the Treaſurer was read, and an order taken, that it be tranſmitted to the Honorable Houſe of Aſſembly.

Extract from the Minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE, *for*
JOHN ARMSTRONG, *jun. Secretary.*

Honorable the SPEAKER *of the General Aſſembly.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Joſeph Hugg*, read *December* 23d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

On motion, *Ordered,* That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council, which propoſes to reduce the price of the public lands within the laſt *Indian* purchaſe, and that it be the order for that day.

It was moved by Mr. *Lowrey*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon*,

That this Houſe cloſe their preſent ſeſſion on *Saturday* next.

And the previous queſtion being called by Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Whitehill*, viz. "*Shall the main queſtion be now put?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate the militia of the ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, December 28, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kutz* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Le Gaux* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, the right of eſtabliſhing and maintaining a ferry acroſs the river *Schuylkill*, at *Spring-mill*, in the county of *Montgomery*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Arthur Donaldſon* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch *the ſole right and advantages of making and employing the ſteam boat, by him lately invented, for a*

“ *limited time*;” and praying the ſaid bill, as publiſhed for conſideration, may not be paſſed into a law, but that the ſame may be amended, ſo as to confine the ſaid *Fitch* to his own invention, and to the uſe of ſteam in the way he is attempting it.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette* was read, praying the ſaid county may be divided into diſtricts, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act appointing Deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution*,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for the relief of* Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, John Harmar, Adam Alberger, Edward Dickinſon, George Knox, Charles Brown, Elias Roſa, Harman Courter, Denniſon Hume, Thomas Harriſon, William Ritchie *and* Cato Hill, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia,” having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America.”

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smith*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill.

And the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Fitzſimons*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Iſaac Gray*,
3 *George Logan*,
4 *Robert Whitehill*,
5 *Thomas Beale*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *David Mitchell*,
8 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *David Davis*,
12 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
13 *Robert Brown*,
14 *Peter Burkhalter*,
15 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

16 *Frederick Antes*,
17 *Samuel Dale*,
18 *William Findley*,
19 *James Barr*,
20 *Alexander Wright*,
21 *John M‘Dowell*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *James Alliſon*,
24 *Theophilus Philips*,
25 *John Gilchreeſt*,
26 *Abraham Smith*,
27 *James M‘Calmont*,
28 *Robert Clark*,
29 *Jacob Miley*,
30 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,

NAYS.

5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,

NAYS.

9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Richard Willing,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *George Roſs,*

NAYS.

21 *David M'Conaughy,*
22 *David M'Clellan,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *Adam Eichelberger,*
25 *Daniel Clymer,*
26 *John Canon,*
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
28 *Charles Moore,*
29 *Samuel Wheeler,*
30 *James Hockley,*
31 *Jacob Reiff.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And after conſiderable debate on the ſaid bill,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, in order to adjourn.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America." And in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Smith,* to inſert the following clauſe, *viz.*

" Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all elections of " Directors of the Bank hereafter to be holden, and all the bye-laws which " ſhall be made for the government of the ſaid Bank, ſhall be by a majority " of the Stockholders preſent; and all elections ſhall be by ballot of the " Stockholders, each of whom ſhall have one vote, and no more."

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſaid clauſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Iſaac Gray,*
3 *George Logan,*
4 *Robert Whitehill,*
5 *Thomas Beale,*
6 *Thomas Kennedy,*
7 *David Mitchell,*
8 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
9 *Philip Kreemer,*
10 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
11 *David Davis,*
12 *Thomas Mawhorter,*

YEAS.

13 *Robert Brown,*
14 *Peter Burkhalter,*
15 *John Piper,*
16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *Samuel Dale,*
18 *William Findley,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John M'Dowell,*
22 *John Flenniken,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Theophilus Philips,*

YEAS.
25 *John Gilchreeſt,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *James M'Calmont,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *Jacob Miley.*

NAYS.
1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *James Moore,*
12 *Richard Willing,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *George Roſs,*
21 *David M'Conaughy,*
22 *David M'Clellan,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *Adam Eichelberger,*
25 *Daniel Clymer,*
26 *John Canon,*
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
28 *Charles Moore,*
29 *Samuel Wheeler,*
30 *James Hockley,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,*
To inſert the following clauſe, *viz.*

"Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That in any future election of Directors, there ſhall not be choſen above two thirds of thoſe who were Directors the preceding year, and no perſon ſhall be a Director more than three years in any ſeven."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Whitehill,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *Robert Whitehill,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Philip Kreemer,*
9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
12 *Robert Brown,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *James Barr,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John M'Dowell,*
21 *John Flenniken,*
22 *James Alliſon,*
23 *Theophilus Philips,*
24 *John Gilchreeſt,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *James M'Calmont,*
27 *Robert Clark,*
28 *Jacob Miley.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Thomas*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,

NAYS.

18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Adam Eichelberger*,
26 *Daniel Clymer*,
27 *John Canon*,
28 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
29 *Charles Moore*,
30 *Samuel Wheeler*,
31 *James Hockley*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any Preſident, Director, or any officer or ſervant of the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, being intruſted with any bill or note, or any bond, deed, money or other effects, belonging to the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, or having any bill or note, or any bond, deed, money or other effects, lodged or depoſited with the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, or with ſuch officer or ſervant, as an officer or ſervant of the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, ſhall ſecrete, embezzle or run away with any ſuch bill, note, bond, deed, money or other effects, or any part of them, every Preſident, Director, officer or ſervant, ſo offending, and being thereof convicted in due form of law, in any court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery within this commonwealth, ſhall be deemed guilty of felony, and ſhall ſuffer death as a felon, without benefit of clergy."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smith*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,

YEAS.

13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Thomas*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,

YEAS.
25 *Adam Eichelberger*,
26 *Daniel Clymer*,
27 *John Canon*,
28 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
29 *Charles Moore*,

YEAS.
30 *Samuel Wheeler*,
31 *James Hockley*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.
1 *William Will*,
2 *Iſaac Gray*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Philip Kreemer*,
9 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
10 *David Davis*,
11 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
12 *Robert Brown*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *John Piper*,

NAYS.
15 *Frederick Antes*,
16 *Samuel Dale*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *Alexander Wright*,
20 *John M'Dowell*,
21 *John Flenniken*,
22 *James Alliſon*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *Abraham Smith*,
26 *James M'Calmont*,
27 *Robert Clark*,
28 *Jacob Miley*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean tim* " *printed for public conſideration?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by M *Smith* and Mr. *Whitehill*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.
1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Thomas*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,

YEAS.
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Adam Eichelberger*,
26 *Daniel Clymer*,
27 *John Canon*,
28 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
29 *Charles Moore*,
30 *Samuel Wheeler*,
31 *James Hockley*,
32 *Jacob Reiff*,
33 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.
1 *George Logan*,
2 *Iſaac Gray*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,

NAYS.
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *David Mitchell*,

NAYS.

7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Philip Kreemer,*
9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
12 *Robert Brown,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*

NAYS.

18 *James Barr,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John M'Dowell,*
21 *John Flenniken,*
22 *James Alliſon,*
23 *Theophilus Philips,*
24 *John Gilchreeſt,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *James M'Calmont,*
27 *Robert Clark,*
28 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *December* 29, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Blaithwaite Jones*, late Chief Engineer in this ſtate, was read, praying he may be allowed the depreciation due on his pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *Jacob Myer*, of *Cumru* townſhip, in the county of *Berks*, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath been robbed of about *one hundred and ſeventy-ſix pounds*, being money by him received in payment of public taxes, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this commonwealth was read, ſetting forth, that they have been informed that a vote had lately paſſed in the Congreſs of the United States, for giving up the trade of the *Miſſiſippi*, in lieu of other privileges of trade to be granted by the court of *Spain*, *&c.* and that the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in Congreſs have joined in the ſaid vote; that conceiving no people can long continue in mutual police where their intereſts become ſeparate, which will prove detrimental to the welfare of *Pennſylvania*, and perhaps to the United States in general, they therefore pray this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and give ſuch inſtructions to their Delegates in Congreſs, as may be favorable to the intereſts of this country.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council, which propoſes to educe the price of lands within the laſt *Indian* purchaſe, was read the ſecond ime, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on that part of the meſſage of the Supreme Executive Council, which propoſes to reduce the price of the public lands, report——

That it is with reluctance they find themſelves obliged to differ from the eſpectable opinion of Council on this ſubject.

To force a ſale of the public lands by the means ſuggeſted, is an expedient, your committee apprehend, that would only invite the purchaſe of ſome of the beſt ſpots, and depreciate all that remained; ſo that, without bringing any immediate ſupply to the treaſury, it would certainly impair a future reſource, which has been relied on as one of our moſt efficient funds for ſatisfying the debts of the ſtate.

Your committee, in conſequence, ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That there does not at preſent appear ſufficient reaſon for reducing the price of the public lands.

Whereupon it was moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

To poſtpone the foregoing report, in order to introduce, in lieu thereof, the following reſolutions, *viz.*

“ *Reſolved,* That the price for every hundred acres of land within the late purchaſe from the *Indians* ſhall be   pounds, and each perſon applying at the Land-office for the purchaſe of any of the ſaid lands ſhall pay at the aforeſaid rate for each hundred acres of the ſame, on which ſuch applicant ſhall obtain a warrant.

“ *Reſolved,* That a committee be appointed, to bring in bill to reduce the price of the land in the ſaid purchaſe, agreeably to the foregoing reſolution.”

And on the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Iſaac Gray,*
3 *Robert Whitehill,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
11 *Robert Brown,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *John Piper,*
14 *John Canon,*

YEAS.

15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *James Barr,*
19 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John M‘Dowell,*
22 *James Alliſon,*
23 *Theophilus Philips,*
24 *John Gilchreeſt,*
25 *Abraham Smith,*
26 *James M‘Calmont,*
27 *Robert Clark,*
28 *Jacob Miley.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *James Moore,*

NAYS.

12 *Richard Willing,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *George Roſs,*
21 *David M‘Conaughy,*
22 *David M‘Clellan,*

NAYS.

23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *Adam Eichelberger,*
25 *Daniel Clymer,*
26 *Charles Moore,*

NAYS.

27 *Samuel Wheeler,*
28 *James Hockley,*
29 *Jacob Reiff,*
30 *John Carſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Whitehill,* and Mr. *Findley,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act appointing Deputies to the Convention intended* "*to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal* "*conſtitution,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act impoſing an additional duty on ſalt and coffee imported into this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to amend and explain the act, entituled* "An "Act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying "additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which in- "terfere with them," *and for the further encouragement of the navigation* "*of the ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, in order to adjourn.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*amend and explain the act, entituled* "An Act to encourage and protect the "manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation "of certain manufactures which interfere with them," *and for the further* "*encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate.*"

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Upon bar iron of foreign manufacture, *forty ſhillings* per ton."

A queſtion aroſe,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—Whereupon the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Hockley* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *John Salter,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *Richard Willing,*

YEAS.

8 *Robert Ralſton,*
9 *Townſend Whelen,*
10 *Joſeph Work,*
11 *George Roſs,*
12 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *Daniel Clymer,*

YEAS.

15 *Charles Moore*,
16 *Samuel Wheeler*,

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Iſaac Gray*,
3 *William Robinſon*, jun.
4 *Samuel Foulke*,
5 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
6 *John Chapman*,
7 *Samuel Evans*,
8 *Richard Thomas*,
9 *Alexander Lowrey*,
10 *Adam Hubley*,
11 *David M'Conaughy*,
12 *David M'Clellan*,
13 *Joſeph Lilley*,
14 *Adam Eichelberger*,
15 *Robert Whitehill*,
16 *Thomas Beale*,
17 *Thomas Kennedy*,
18 *David Mitchell*,
19 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
20 *David Davis*,

YEAS.

17 *James Hockley*,
18 *Jacob Reiff*.

NAYS.

21 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
22 *Robert Brown*,
23 *Peter Burkhalter*,
24 *John Piper*,
25 *John Canon*,
26 *Frederick Antes*,
27 *Samuel Dale*,
28 *William Findley*,
29 *James Barr*,
30 *Alexander Wright*,
31 *John M'Dowell*,
32 *James Alliſon*,
33 *Theophilus Philips*,
34 *John Gilchreeſt*,
35 *Abraham Smith*,
36 *James M'Calmont*,
37 *Robert Clark*,
38 *Jacob Miley*,
39 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion, *Ordered*, That 50 copies of the ſtatement delivered to the committee on ways and means by the Comptroller-General, and entituled "*A View of the Debts and Expences of the commonwealth of* Pennſylvania, *and* "*of the funds and revenues of the ſame*, December 1786," be delivered to the Supreme Executive Council, 100 more to the Comptroller-General, and that the remainder be diſtributed among the members of this Houſe.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *December* 30, 1786. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Samuel Vaughan*, read *December* 16th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Wright*, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of *Robert Aitken,* for printing, *&c.* A view of the debts of the ſtate, for *twenty-ſeven pounds five ſhillings.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers,* for printing the minutes of the third ſeſſion of the Tenth General Aſſembly, for printing 300 copies of the act for altering and amending the election laws, and for printing 100 pay certificates, in the whole, *fifty-eight pounds three ſhillings and nine-pence.*

The report of the committee, read *December* 22d, was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed on the petition for a road between the head waters of the rivers *Juniata* and *Conemaugh,* report——

That an eaſy communication with the weſtern country of *Pennſylvania* preſents objects of the greateſt importance; a readier and cheaper means of conveying the products of that country to a market, and the promoting a more extenſive traffic and exchange of commodities between the more diſtant citizens of the ſtate.

That they are perſuaded with the petitioners, that this eaſy communication will be beſt made by a road connecting the head waters of the *Juniata* and *Conemaugh,* which they are informed may be made practicable at an expence, trifling when compared with its utility.

Your committee therefore propoſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to appoint three Commiſſioners, one of whom to be acquainted with the art of ſurveying, to examine and report to Council the grounds for the ſhorteſt and beſt waggon road, between the waters of the *Frankſtown* branch of the *Juniata* and the *Conemaugh,* at or near the points where the rivers begin to be navigable; alſo authoriſing Council, if they approve of the report to be made, to direct the opening of the ſaid road, and to apply thereto any ſum not exceeding *five hundred pounds,* to be taken out of any fund not otherwiſe appropriated; and alſo in the ſaid bill to declare the river *Juniata* and the *Frankſtown* branch, the *Conemaugh* and the *Kiſhkimenetas,* into which it runs, public highways, throughout their whole navigable courſe.

Ordered, That the committee who made the report, be a committee to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of *John Tyler,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 23d, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the Speaker be directed to tranſmit to the Delegates repreſenting this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, a copy of the report of the committee on ways and means, adopted by this Houſe *December* 26th inſtant.

The bill, entituled "*An Act impoſing an additional duty on ſalt and coffee* "*imported into this ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for giving, during a limited time, a right of* "*pre-emption to actual ſettlers within the counties of* Waſhington *and* Fayette, "*and that part of* Weſtmoreland *which lies within the territory purchaſed of* "*the* Indians, *at the treaty held at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord one* "*thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-eight,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act appointing deputies to the convention intended* "*to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal* "*conſtitution,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Joſeph Powell* was read, referring to his memorial and petition read *December* 15th, and praying that the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to demand from thoſe perſons with whom the law orders them to be depoſited, all ſuch documents as may be neceſſary to determine who of right is the third ſitting member of Aſſembly for the county of *Bedford.*

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the Treaſurer of the ſtate, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd,* Eſquire, Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for *ſeventy-five pounds,* to enable him to defray the contingent expences of this Houſe, and for which he is to account.

A motion was made by Mr. *D. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Morris,* and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the buſineſs of the General Aſſembly has greatly increaſed, and the duties of the Clerk and Aſſiſtant-Clerk of this Houſe are become much more arduous ſince the revolution: And whereas the frequent applications for tranſcripts and papers, together with the ordinary buſineſs of the Houſe, engroſſes moſt of their time during the receſs: And whereas it is reaſonable and juſt that they ſhould be allowed an adequate compenſation for their ſervices:

Therefore, *Reſolved,* That the Clerk and Aſſiſtant-Clerk ſeverally be allowed thirty days pay, for their ſervices during the receſs of the Houſe, and that the Speaker draw orders on the Treaſurer for the ſame.

On motion, *Reſolved,* That the Speaker be directed to draw orders on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of the Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, for the ſum of *four pounds ten ſhillings* each, for their ſervices during the receſs of the Houſe.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for giving, during a limited time, a right of pre-emption to the actual ſettlers within that part of this ſtate, which is within the territory purchaſed by the King of* Great-Britain *of or from the* Indians, *at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-eight.*

An ACT *appointing deputies to the convention intended to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution.*

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws which might be enacted by this Houſe, reported their having affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to prevent, for a limited time, the ſales of lands for the payment of taxes within the frontier counties of this ſtate, belonging to non-reſident owners thereof, and to allow the ſaid owners a further day of appeal.*

II. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, paſſed the twenty-fifth day of* September *laſt, entituled* "An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of *Northumberland* into a ſeparate county."

III. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend the powers of the truſtees of the county of* Weſtmoreland, *and for ſettling their accounts.*

IV. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Iſaac Wynn, Philip Buckius, John Harmar, Adam Alberger, Edward Dickinſon, George Knox, Charles Brown, Elias Roſa, Harman Courter, Denniſon Hume, Thomas Harriſon, William Ritchie *and* Cato Hill, *inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia.

V. *An* ACT *for giving, during a limited time, a right of pre-emption to the actual ſettlers within that part of this ſtate, which is within the territory purchaſed by the King of* Great-Britain *of or from the* Indians, *at* Fort Stanwix, *in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-eight.*

VI. *An* ACT *appointing Deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned until the third *Tueſday* in *February* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

The following was handed in too late to be inſerted in its proper place.

REASONS for the Vote for adopting the report of the committee, to whom were referred the petitions of ſundry inhabitants, praying that certificates of public debts may be made receivable for arrearages due to the ſtate, for lands purchaſed previous to the revolution.

BECAUSE the mode of paying the arrears due on lands located or warranted before the 4th *July*, 1776, propoſed by the report, would be *highly beneficial to the ſtate.* Thoſe arrears, it is computed, amount to 500,000l. and form a revenue not yet appropriated to any ſpecial purpoſe, except ſo much thereof as ſhall be ſufficient to redeem the bills of credit emitted in 1781. As theſe bills do not now exceed the ſixth part of the arrears, and are fully provided for by the report, we conceive it will be highly injurious to the ſtate, to ſuffer ſo large a fund as is formed by the reſidue of the arrears to lie dormant and inactive any longer. It is our duty to diminiſh the public debt as ſoon and as much as poſſible, and thereby to lighten the taxes neceſſary for the payment of its intereſt. Judging from paſt experience, and the preſent ſtate of things, we are perſuaded, that if ſpecie or thoſe bills of credit, now few in number and confined to a few hands, are inſiſted on in payments for theſe arrears, this reſpectable fund, which may be ſo applied as to extinguiſh one third of our direct taxes, will be greatly endangered and certainly diminiſhed. People will be driven to evade the payment, and to ſhelter themſelves under tricks formerly practiſed, with difficulty detected, and which a general conſent may render certain of ſucceſs; but by making theſe payments eaſy in the mode propoſed, by accepting that which is of ſpecie value to the ſtate, and which ought to be ſo to the individual, we ſhall ſecure the immediate payment of the greateſt part, and deprive thoſe who delay it of all further excuſe. Add to this, that as patented land is of greater value than that which is in arrears, as the title becomes ſecure, and the proprietor is encouraged thereby to extend his improvements, we ſhould by this means increaſe the objects of taxation, and render the ſtate more able to ſupport the public burdens. Thus, by alluring the people to pay the arrears in the way propoſed, large ſums would be ſaved to the ſtate, which may otherwiſe be loſt. A conſiderable part of the public debt, for which intereſt is annually paid, would be honorably diſcharged, and the vigor, reſources and happineſs of the ſtate increaſed.

Becauſe the adopting the report *would be highly beneficial to a large body of our fellow-citizens in every part of the ſtate, who are in arrears for the lands they hold.* It is well known that in almoſt every county, in *Cheſter*, *Lancaſter* and *York*, and particularly in *Berks* and *Northampton*, as well as in the weſtern and younger counties, lands have been long under cultivation, and yet remain unpatented. Large arrears are due upon many of theſe, with intereſt from ten to ſeventy years. Theſe debtors are numerous, the debts have been ſuffered to accumulate to a diſtreſſing amount, and now rigorouſly to exact payment in a way difficult to be made, when an eaſy and juſt one preſents itſelf, will be ſeverity inſtead of juſtice. The ſum of 500,000l. being in arrear, is perhaps more ſpecie than there is in *Pennſylvania* (the city of *Philadelphia* excepted) and to enforce the payment of this, at a time when the people offer a conſideration of equal value to the commonwealth, and are paying heavy taxes for the ſupport of government, will diſtreſs or ruin many valuable citizens, and depopulate ſome parts of the ſtate. It will give an opportunity to the men of wealth to poſſeſs them of the farms of the poor, and to ſweep away theſe improvements for a trifling price; thus weakening the ſtate, and deſtroying that equality of property on which the ſafety of a republic reſts. If time for payment ſhall be given, it will but accumulate the debt, and tie up for many years a fund, which ought to be ſet in motion to relieve the ſtate and its citizens. Nor can this mode of payment be conſidered as an undue indulgence to thoſe who have neglected to pay in the bills of 1781, as others have done. It ought to be remembered, that thoſe bills have been at a lower rate of depreciation, and were purchaſed for leſs money than the certificates of the ſtate can now be procured with. And though they have been delinquent, we ought not to forget that they would have been enabled to have paid their debt to the ſtate, had the ſtate diſcharged the debt it owed them.

Becauſe the adopting the report would be *highly beneficial to the public creditors*. Among theſe we rank the holders of the bills of credit emitted in 1781. We are convinced that their intereſt would be beſt ſerved, and theſe bills ſooneſt redeemed, in the mode propoſed. The fund has hitherto operated ſlowly. In the laſt nine months not more than 13,000l. have been ſunk. Theſe, who are ſo deeply in arrears, are diſcouraged from attempting a payment ſo difficult to be made in theſe bills or in ſpecie alone; but they offer, and will no doubt exert themſelves, inſtantly to pay one fourth in this manner, if the reſidue be accepted in certificates. This fourth will abſorb the whole ſum that is ſtill unredeemed. But that large and ſuffering claſs of public creditors, the holders of certificates, will alſo be benefited. The meaſures recommended will increaſe the uſes, and give a ſpring to the circulation of theſe certificates; and by convincing the people of the firm determination of government to diſcharge its debt, will reſtore in ſome degree the public confidence. Knowing that the current value of our public ſecurities deſignates our national character, and is the ſtandard by which the faith, the wiſdom and the reſources of *Pennſylvania* is meaſured, we wiſh to bring them by gradual and honeſt means to that value which the laws have ſtamped upon them. The ſtate conſiders them as ſpecie; it pays intereſt on them as ſuch; it muſt finally redeem accordingly; and miſerable is the policy which endeavours to keep them at a depreciated value in the hands of the public creditor, thereby at once injuring him, and expoſing the credit of the ſtate.

Becauſe national juſtice, as well as national policy, demands the adoption of the report. We are ſenſible that the public neceſſities do not allow in all caſes the debt of the ſtate to be ſet off againſt its demands on the individual;

but it is evidently unjuſt to diſtreſs our citizens (without any ſuch neceſſity) for arrearages of long ſtanding, when they have honeſt and juſt claims againſt the ſtate to the ſame or a greater amount. The citizen in arrears, who furniſhed the ſtate with his property or ſervices to the ſame value, that inſtant, upon every principle of commutative juſtice, diſcharged the debt he owed. And nothing but a neceſſity, which does not exiſt, can juſtify our withholding the debt we owe with one hand, and enforcing the payment of that which is due with the other.

Becauſe we conceive that *public faith*, far from being violated by the report, requires that it ſhould be adopted. If thoſe arrearages are conſidered as the fund provided for redeeming the bills of 1781, it ſhould be remembered, that great part of thoſe bills have been ſince that time ſunk by direct taxation, and that the fund hath thereby been liberated from the whole demand, except for the ſum of 64,000l. The redemption of this ſum is effectually ſecured and provided for in the report, and would be effected by it in a much ſhorter time than in any other way propoſed. As theſe arrears amount to a ſum ſix or ſeven times greater than that, and cannot, we believe, be collected in ſpecie, a regard to the public faith, which is pledged for the redemption of every part of the public debt, ſhould prevent us from ſuffering ſo large a fund to be loſt or unappropriated, when the public creditors have ſuch juſt demands upon the ſtate. It is only by ſhewing a readineſs to embrace every proper occaſion to diminiſh our debt, that public credit can be reſtored. When we have it in our power to ſink ſo large a portion of our debt, to liberate our citizens from a great part of their taxes, to ſave from diſtreſs thouſands of the landholders in the commonwealth, to relieve the public creditors, and to ſtrengthen the credit and reſources of the ſtate, we think it contrary to every principle of national juſtice and national policy, to neglect the opportunity of ſecuring theſe bleſſings to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*.

Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell,
William Findley,
Abraham Smith,
James M'Calmont,
John Piper,
John M'Dowell,
John Gilchreeſt,
Samuel Dale,
Jacob Miley,
Alexander Wright,
Theophilus Philips,
Thomas Beale,
David Davis,
James Barr,
Philip Kreemer,
Peter Burkhalter,
Joſeph Heiſter,
Frederick Antes,
Gabriel Heiſter,
Robert Clark,
Robert Brown.

MINUTES
OF THE
SECOND SESSION
OF THE ELEVENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at *Philadelphia*, on *Tueſday*, the Twentieth Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſeven.

Tueſday, February 20, 1787. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum, they

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, February 21, 1787. A. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum, they

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, February 22, 1787. A. M.

A number of members met, ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum; whereupon

A return of an election held in the county of *Lancaſter* for a repreſentative, to ſerve in the General Aſſembly in the room of the late *Samuel J. Atlee*, Eſquire, was read, whereby it appeared that *James Clemſon*, Eſquire, was duly returned.

Emanuel Carpenter and *James Clemſon*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Lancaſter*, and *Michael Schmyſer* and *Henry Tyſon*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats, having previouſly made the requiſite declarations.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Roſs* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the ſeveral papers, vouchers and documents, relative to the late election for repreſentatives in the county of *Bedford*, and tranſmitted to the Houſe by order of the Speaker, be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed this forenoon, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would have buſineſs to lay before the Houſe this day or to-morrow.

A return of an election held in the county of *Luzerne* was preſented to the chair, and read, whereby it appeared that *John Franklin*, Eſquire, was duly elected the repreſentative for the ſaid county.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and* "Joſeph Baldwin *in and to a ferry over* Neſhaminy *creek, in the county of* "Bucks, *on the main road from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them* "*to maintain a bridge acroſs the ſaid creek, at the ſaid place*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the eſtabliſhment of an academy or public* "*ſchool in the town of* Pittſburgh," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Lutheran con-* "*gregation in and near the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, February 23, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows:

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

DURING your receſs an election has been held for the county of *Luzerne*. While this event affords a proof of the wiſdom of your meaſures, we muſt acknowledge that Mr. *Pickering*, a Commiſſioner for holding the election, was inſtrumental to its accompliſhment, by expoſing the many falſe and artful repreſentations which had been made by people oppoſed to the authority of government.

We think it our duty again to recommend to your Honorable Houſe the receiving the funded certificates of the ſtate for the arrearages due on lands located or warranted before the year 1776. It appears to us a meaſure ſo juſt and reaſonable, that it will be highly beneficial, and give general ſatisfaction. Many of the citizens who are in arrear have ſuffered by the calamities of war, and cannot ſettle at the land-office, unleſs their certificates are received in payment. If this indulgence is not granted, they will be obliged to give part of their lands to ſpeculators to have it patented, or endeavour to evade payment.

We are convinced it will be of advantage to the ſtate to lower the price of land within the laſt *Indian* purchaſe. Only eight warrants have been taken out for lands there theſe ſix months paſt.

Since your receſs we have been applied to by Meſſieurs *Bedford* and *Neville* for payment of the balances due them. As their accounts appear to be juſt and reaſonable, we recommend them to the conſideration of your Honorable Houſe.

The Secretary will lay before you a letter from the board of treaſury of the United States, of the 2d inſtant, incloſing an account of expenditures under the general head of contingencies from the 1ſt day of *January* to the 31ſt *December*, 1786, together with a letter from the Secretary of Congreſs, dated the 2d inſtant, incloſing the Journals of Congreſs for the laſt fœderal year—and a petition from *Thomas Hutchins*, Eſquire.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, February 23, 1787.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Van Swearingen*, *John Harden* and *Baſil Prather*, late officers in the eighth *Pennſylvania* regiment, in behalf of themſelves and the ſoldiers under their command, was read, praying to be entitled to the depreciation due on their pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *David Jones* and *William Rogers*, in behalf of themſelves and *Robert M'Murdie*, late chaplains in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that they conceive themſelves juſtly entitled to the commutation of five years full pay, in lieu of half pay, with the ſurgeons and others in the hoſpital department, agreeably to the reſolution of the General Aſſembly of the

22d of *December*, 1784, and praying this Houſe to direct the Comptroller-General to iſſue certificates to them, reſpectively, for the amount thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A letter from the Honorable *William Maclay*, Eſquire, was read, incloſing an account of his attendance in order to take his ſeat as a repreſentative in the General Aſſembly for the year 1786, and requeſting this Houſe to direct payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Ormſby* and *Jacob Bouſman* was read, ſetting forth, that they are by law authoriſed to ſupport a ferry acroſs the *Monongahela*, oppoſite the town of *Pittſburgh*; that other perſons have eſtabliſhed ferries above and below them on the ſaid river, to their very great injury; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them an excluſive right to occupy and maintain the ſaid ferry.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, remonſtrating againſt the oath preſcribed in the act, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip*," paſſed the fourth day of *March* laſt, and praying that ſo much of the ſaid oath as requires an abjuration, and a declaration of the perſons deſirous of being admitted to the rights of citizenſhip, that they have not joined, aided, aſſiſted and abetted the fleets and armies of the king of *Great-Britain*, may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Antrim*, *Waſhington*, *Montgomery* and *Peters*, in the county of *Franklin*, were read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general election at *Green-Caſtle*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Roſs*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the report of the committee, read *December* 16th laſt, reſpecting the improvement of the public roads within this ſtate.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for regulating of public auctions and vendues*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for the granting* two hundred pounds *of the unappropriated monies of this commonwealth, for mending and repairing the road from* Hamburg, *on* Schuylkill, *to the* Northumberland *county line, by* Conrad Minick's *ſaw-mill*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof, from damage by gun-powder*," was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the " diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out " therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and

" roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes " and purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Union Library Company of* " Hatborough, *in the manor of* Moreland, *and county of* Montgomery," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to exonerate the Contributors to the* Pennſyl- " vania *Hoſpital from a debt due to this commonwealth, upon a loan made to them* " *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *February* 24, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Iſaac Worral* was read, ſetting forth, that he acted as a purchaſing Commiſſary during the late war, under *Charles Ceſſna*, *William Brown* and *Bernard Dougherty*, Eſquires, and ſuſtained divers loſſes in cattle, as well as the ſum of *one hundred and ſixty pounds*, which he remains accountable for by reaſon of the delinquency of ſaid *Ceſſna*, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from *Walter Fields*, of *Williams* townſhip, in the county of *Northampton*, was read, ſetting forth, that he purchaſed two boats for the purpoſe of tranſporting proviſion and public ſtores during the late war; that afterwards thoſe boats were ſeized by general orders, and loſt, ſince which a ſuit hath been inſtituted for the amount thereof, judgment obtained, and his effects taken in execution; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Nicholas Krebl* and *Daniel Weidle* was read, ſetting forth, that the eſtate of their late father-in-law, *Nicholas Huſecker*, was confiſcated to the uſe of this commonwealth; that the petitioners, being of different political ſentiments from ſaid *Huſecker*, continued firmly attached to the cauſe of their country; and praying the ſaid eſtate may be reſtored to them, or ſuch part thereof as this Houſe may deem meet.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Alexander*, of the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth, that he loaned money to the United States of *America* for carrying on the late war with *Great-Britain*, that he has lately been reduced to a ſtate of indigence in conſequence of loſſes ſuſtained by the freſhes in *Codorus* creek, and praying this Houſe to direct payment of the monies ſo loaned.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *George Brand*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, ſetting forth, that the act, entituled "*An Act for the better regulation of juries*," is burthenſome and oppreſſive, therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable *William Maclay*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

The petition of 169 freeholders and inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and the townſhips of *Paſſyunk* and *Moyamenſing*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *December* 16th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 22d, on the ſeveral papers and documents relative to the late general election held in the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom were referred the papers and other documents relative to the late election of repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*, beg leave to report——

That upon a full inveſtigation of the documents and papers produced, they find that *Joſeph Powell* hath 406 votes, and *Abraham Cable* 285; from which it appears that *Joſeph Powell* is the third legal repreſentative for ſaid county.

Your committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That *Joſeph Powell*, Eſquire, be admitted to take his ſeat, as a repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*.

Whereupon the ſaid *Joſeph Powell*, Eſquire, appearing in the Houſe, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat accordingly.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, and of *Robert Bridges*, *Elias Boys* and others, poſtponed *December* 4th laſt; and after ſome debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the eſtabliſhment of an Academy or public School in the town of* Pittſburgh;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs, *Ordered*,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “*A Supplement to an act, entituled* “An Act for re-eſtabliſhing the charter of the ſecond Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*,” *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “*A further Supplement to the acts made for the relief of inſolvent debtors*,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs. Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To amend the title of the ſaid bill, ſo as to read in the manner following, *viz.*

“*An Act containing a Supplement to the acts made for the relief of inſolvent debtors, and alſo granting relief to felons unable to make reſtitution of ſtolen goods.*”

Which was determined in the affirmative.

Thereupon, *Ordered*, That the ſame bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, *February* 26, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial and petition from the rope-makers in and near the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that the petitioners remonſtrate againſt the bill publiſhed for conſideration, whereby it is propoſed to leſſen to one half the additional duty laid on cordage and rope-yarns imported from foreign ports, by an act paſſed in *September*, 1785, entituled “*An Act for protecting the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of foreign manufactures which interfere with them.*”

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 117 ſubſcribers, inhabitants of the borough of *Carliſle*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying that a law may be paſſed to enable the Receiver-General of the land-office to receive, in payment of the arrearages of purchaſe money due for unpatented lands, funded certificates of debts due to the citizens of this commonwealth, on which intereſt is payable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern end of the county of *Cumberland* was read, of like tenor and import with the foregoing petition.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter, truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German* Reformed congregation of *Frankford*, in the townſhip of *Oxford*, and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for incorporating the ſaid ſociety.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 740 ſubſcribers, inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled “*An Act for eſtabliſhing* "*and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogo *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 355 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, remonſtrating againſt the re-annexing the townſhip of *Heidelberg* to the county of *Lancaſter.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the taxable inhabitants and freemen of the townſhip of *Heidelberg*, late of *Lancaſter*, but now *Dauphin* county, was read, praying to be re-annexed to *Lancaſter* county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying that a diviſion of the county may be made, and that a new county town may be laid out on the weſt branch, at ſuch place as may be found moſt central and convenient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Robert Preiſt* was read, ſetting forth, that he is confined for debt in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and praying to be heard before a committee of the Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, on the river *Juniata*, and in *Kiſhicoquillas* valley, were read, ſetting forth their prayer to be annexed to the county of *Bedford*, in caſe of the diviſion propoſed by the bill publiſhed for conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Peter Le Gaux*, read *December* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the committee of the eſtate of* John " Vanderen (*who is* non compos mentis) *to ſell and convey ſome parts of his* " *real and perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other* " *parts of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe* " *for a term of years parts of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" was read the third time: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Dowell*,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the further conſideration of the ſaid bill.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the United Epiſcopal Churches* " *of* Trinity *Church, in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All Saints *Church, in* Lower " Dublin *townſhip, in* Philadelphia *county, and St.* Thomas's *Church, in* " Whitemarſh *townſhip,* Montgomery *county*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, February 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1532 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from *Greenſborough* to *Hanna's-town*, as being the moſt central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

An agreement executed by *John Culbertſon, Andrew Allſworth* and *Dorcas Boyd,* owners of lands adjacent to *Hanna's-town,* in the county of *Weſtmoreland,* was read, obligating themſelves to convey for public uſe 30 acres of land adjoining the ſaid town, in caſe the legiſlature ſhall direct the ſeat of juſtice to be removed there.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 494 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* and 437 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* were read, praying that certificates due to the citizens of this ſtate from the United States may be received in payment for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 385 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from the town of *Sunbury,* in the ſaid county, to the town of *Northumberland.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the town of *Newtown,* in the county of *Bucks,* was read, praying the ſaid town may be erected into a borough.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers members of the Aſſociate Preſbyterian congregation of *Pequea* and *Brandywine* was read, praying the act, entituled "*An Act to* "*diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian* "*Church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers* "*the ſaid church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction,*" may be repealed, or at leaſt the operation thereof ſuſpended, until the action depending in a court of juſtice reſpecting the property in the ſaid church be determined; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *December* 27th laſt, on the memorial of the miniſter, elders, ſeveral truſtees and other members of the ſaid church.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee for improving the public roads within this commonwealth.

And in debating the following paragraphs, *viz.*

Reſolved, That for the better improving and reparation of the public roads, the following be declared to be ſtate roads, and ſhall hereafter be improved and kept in repair at the expence of the ſtate, *viz.*

The road from the *Middle-Ferry* on *Schuylkill* to *Lancaſter,* from thence to *Miller's Spring,* in the county of *Cumberland,* and from thence to *Pittſburgh.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to *Reading,* in the county of *Berks.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to the river *Delaware,* at   *Ferry.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to *Cheſter,* and thence to *Naaman's Creek.*

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*

YEAS.

7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *John Salter,*
9 *George Logan,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
12 *James Moore,*

YEAS.

13 *Richard Willing,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

22 *George Roſs,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *Daniel Clymer,*
25 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
26 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
27 *Charles Moore,*
28 *Samuel Wheeler,*
29 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *John Chapman,*
2 *Valentine Upp,*
3 *James Clemſon,*
4 *David M'Conaughy,*
5 *Michael Schmyſer,*
6 *Henry Tyſon,*
7 *Adam Eichelberger,*
8 *Robert Whitehill,*
9 *Thomas Beale,*
10 *Thomas Kennedy,*
11 *David Mitchell,*
12 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
13 *Philip Kreemer,*
14 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
15 *David Davis,*
16 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
17 *Robert Brown,*
18 *Peter Burkhalter,*

NAYS.

19 *John Piper,*
20 *John Canon,*
21 *Joſeph Powell,*
22 *Frederick Antes,*
23 *Samuel Dale,*
24 *William Findley,*
25 *James Barr,*
26 *Alexander Wright,*
27 *John M'Dowell,*
28 *John Flenniken,*
29 *James Alliſon,*
30 *Theophilus Philips,*
31 *John Gilchreeſt,*
32 *Abraham Smith,*
33 *James M'Calmont,*
34 *Jacob Reiff,*
35 *Robert Clark,*
36 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the negative.

Whereupon, on the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe adopt the reſidue of the report, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was re-committed the report for laying out and improving the public roads, offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That for the better improvement and reparation of the public roads, the following be declared to be ſtate roads, and ſhall hereafter be improved and kept in repair at the expence of the ſtate, *viz.*

The road from the *Middle-Ferry* on *Schuylkill* to *Lancaſter,* from thence to *Miller*'s *Spring,* in the county of *Cumberland,* and from thence to *Pittſburgh.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to *Reading,* in the county of *Berks.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to *Allen-town,* in the county of *Northampton.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to the river *Delaware,* at   *Ferry.*

The road from *Philadelphia* to *Cheſter,* and thence to *Naaman*'s *Creek.*

Reſolved, That   commiſſioners be appointed for each of theſe roads, whoſe duty it ſhall be to cauſe a ſurvey of the roads aforeſaid to be made, which ſurvey ſhall be returned to the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council; and if, upon ſuch ſurvey and report, it appears neceſſary to alter the courſes of the preſent roads, or any of them, and the Preſident and Council ſhall approve thereof, ſuch alteration ſhall be accordingly made, and not otherwiſe.

That the juſtices of the peace ſhall hold a ſpecial ſeſſion on the firſt *Monday* in *February* in every year, and ſhall then appoint four good and ſubſtantial freeholders, who ſhall be commiſſioners of the ſtate roads within the counties reſpectively for which they are appointed.

That the commiſſioners ſo appointed, that is to ſay, the commiſſioners of thoſe counties through which each of theſe roads ſhall paſs, ſhall meet at ſome central and convenient place, to be appointed by the juſtices aforeſaid, and ſhall there determine the portion of road to be made or repaired within that year; that having ſo agreed, they ſhall, by public advertiſements in the news-papers and otherwiſe, make known the portion of road ſo to be made or repaired, and ſhall contract for the making or repairing ſuch part, as well as for keeping it in repair for years from the time of making.

That for ſupplying a fund for the purpoſes aforeſaid, there ſhall be levied and collected, throughout this commonwealth, an annual tax of upon each horſe, mare or gelding, above the age of three years, for fourteen years; the tax ſo to be collected to be kept ſeparate and apart from all other monies, ſubject to the drafts of the commiſſioners aforeſaid, in the proportions hereafter mentioned: And if the ſaid annual tax ſhall not amount to the clear yearly ſum of *ſix thouſand pounds*, other ſufficient and determinate funds ſhall be provided, to make good ſuch deficiency.

And, in order to enable the commiſſioners to commence and proſecute this deſirable purpoſe, they ſhall be empowered to borrow money, and to mortgage, for the re-payment thereof, the proportion of the revenue to them aſſigned.

That the proportions to be applied to the reſpective roads, annually, be as follow:

For the road from the *Middle Ferry* to *Pittſburgh*,	£ 2500	0	0
The road to *Reading*, - - -	1500	0	0
The road to *Allen-town*, - - -	1000	0	0
The road to *Delaware*, - - -	500	0	0
The road to *Naaman*'s *Creek*, - - -	500	0	0
	£ 6000	0	0

And the perſons contracting ſhall have the right of taking materials from the adjacent lands, under the ſame reſtrictions as the ſupervifors have under the preſent laws.

Whenever the annual tax ſhall amount to more than the ſum herein ſpecified, the reſidue ſhall be divided among the different roads, in the ſame proportion as the preſent revenue is divided.

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate and diſcharge* David Cloyd, *late* "*Treaſurer of ſtate taxes in and for the county of* Cheſter, *from the pay-* "*ment of* two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings *ſpecie, of which he* "*was robbed,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday,

Wedneſday, February 28, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Vanderen* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the committee of the eſtate of* John Vanderen " (*who is* non compos mentis) *to ſell and convey ſome parts of his real and* " *perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other parts* " *of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe for* " *a term of years parts of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein men-* " *tioned;*" and praying to be heard by counſel thereon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1610 inhabitants of the county of *Berks* were read, praying certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate from the United States may be received in payment for unpatented lands; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they, together with other petitions of a like tenor preſented the preſent ſeſſion, be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *J. Heiſter*, Mr. *Trexler*, Mr. *Powell*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Brackenridge*, Mr. *Wright*, Mr. *Philips*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, Mr. *Wheeler* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

Petitions from 135 inhabitants of the townſhip of *Cumru*, in the county of *Berks*, were read, remonſtrating againſt a road lately laid out through the lands of *Jacob Kurtz*, within the ſaid townſhip, and praying the ſame may be vacated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bedford* was read, ſtating many difficulties they labour under in the raiſing and collecting of taxes aſſeſſed on lands within the ſaid county, belonging to non-reſident owners thereof, and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Alexander*, read *February* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Schmyſer* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Thomas Hutchins*, Eſq; tranſmitted by the Supreme Executive Council, and read with their meſſage of the 23d inſtant, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *November* 30th laſt, on the petition of *George Wall*, jun. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 26th, on the petition of *Peter Le Gaux*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 16th laſt, on the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council which recommends a compenſation to be made to Colonel *Francis Mentges*, Inſpector-General of the militia, for ſervices performed, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay* " *out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land* " *reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* " An Act for the ſale of " certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying " off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the " *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other " lands therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be " divided off to them ſeverally at the end of the war," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act impoſing an additional duty on ſalt and coffee* " *imported into this ſtate,*" was read the third time; and after conſiderable debate,

On the queſtion,—" Will the Houſe agree to the ſeveral paragraphs?"
It was determined in the negative.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *containing a ſupplement to the acts made for the relief of inſolvent debtors, and alſo granting relief to felons unable to make reſtitution of ſtolen goods.*

An ACT *for the eſtabliſhment of an Academy or Public School in the town of* Pittſburgh.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act for the more ſpeedy and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice."

An ACT *to exonerate the Contributors to the* Pennſylvania *Hoſpital from a debt due to this commonwealth, upon a loan made to them in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 1, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, February* 28, 1787.

SIR,

I INCLOSE a letter from the Governor of *Maſſachuſetts,* accompanied by an extract from the proceedings of the general court of that commonwealth.

I have alſo to communicate the opinion of Council, that a reward of *one hundred pounds* for *Daniel Shays,* and *fifty pounds* for each of the other principals mentioned in Governor *Bowdoin*'s proclamation, additional to the rewards we are requeſted to offer on the credit of *Maſſachuſetts,* be offered by this commonwealth, if apprehended within the limits thereof. We ſhould be happy if this opinion ſhould meet the approbation of the Houſe.

I am, S I R,
With great regard,
Your obedient and very humble Servant,
CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of*
the General Aſſembly.

On motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was taken up for a ſecond reading, and referred, together with its incloſures, to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Nicholas Krehl* and *Daniel Weidle*, read *February* 24th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The petitions from 385 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, read *February* 27th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *J. Heiſter*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Dale*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out* " *a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land re-* " *ſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* " An Act for the ſale of " certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying " off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the " *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain " other lands therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, " to be divided off to them ſeverally at the end of the war," be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

On motion of Mr. *Logan*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schmyſer*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for reducing the expences of government*," and that it be the order of that day.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Will*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend the act, entituled* " An Act for the relief of " officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have " been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the " United States," and that it be the order of that day.

The committee appointed *December* 30th laſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 23d laſt, on the petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, and to whom alſo was referred, *February* 24th laſt, the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Will*, ſeconded by Mr. *Mawhorter*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Whereas the act of Aſſembly regulating chimney ſweepers within the city f *Philadelphia*, and the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and the townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties*, paſſed the 26th day of *November*, 1779, is expired by its own limitation: And whereas it is highly expedient for the ſafety of the city and liberties, that ſuch a law ſhould be in force: Therefore

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Hiltzheimer* and Mr. *Robinſon* be a committee, o bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Peter Le Gaux*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, to enable him to erect and maintain a ferry acroſs the river *Schuylkill*, provided that the privilege aforeſaid be confined to landings the property of ſaid *Le Gaux*.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, *Robert Bridges*, and others. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to receive on loan certificates for monies loaned in the continental loan-offices in the ſtates of *New-Jerſey* and *Delaware*, by perſons who then were and yet are citizens of *Pennſylvania*, by actual reſidence within the ſame; and that he be directed to iſſue certificates therefor, in like manner and under the ſame regulations as directed by act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the 1ſt day of *March*, 1786, entituled "*An Act for the further* "*relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on* "*loan certain debts of the United States of* America, *and for funding the ſame,* "*and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of certain* "*debts of this ſtate, every ſix months.*"

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church in the* "*townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the county of Dauphin*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the* Baptiſt *church and congre-* "*gation in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate* "*of* Pennſylvania," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the congregation of the Seventh-* "*day Baptiſts reſiding within the townſhip of* Eaſt-Nantmill, *and places adja-* "*cent, in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 2, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Franklin*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Luzerne*, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the *German* Evangelic Lutheran congregation, in the borough of *Reading*, was read, praying the ſaid Society may be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to amend and explain the act, entituled* " An Act " to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying addition- " al duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with " them, and for the further encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate," and that it be the order of that day.

On motion, *Ordered*, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the re- " gulation of bankruptcy," and that it be the order of that day.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker be authoriſed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Eſquire, Clerk of this Houſe, for *ſeventy-five pounds*, to enable him to pay the contingent expences of the Houſe, and for which he is to be accountable.

The committee appointed *February* 24th, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next, and that it be the order of that day.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed to offer, by proclamation, for *Daniel Shays*, *Luke Day*, *Adam Wheeler* and *Eli Parſons*, if apprehended within the limits of this commonwealth, rewards, in addition to thoſe given by the Executive of *Maſſachuſetts*, *viz.* for *Shays*, *one hundred pounds*; and for *Day*, *Wheeler* and *Parſons*, *fifty pounds* each; and that a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petitions of divers inhabitants of the counties of *Cheſter* and *Bedford*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act for the better re- " gulation of juries*," as directs the payment of *five ſhillings per diem* to perſons who attend as jurors, together with the mode of providing for ſuch payment, be repealed.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the ſaid act as impoſes a fine not exceeding *ſix pounds*, at the diſcretion of the court, upon perſons ſummoned as jurors who do not attend, be altered to *three pounds*.

Reſolved, That ſo much of the act, entituled " *An Act to regulate the " general elections*, &c." as allows to the judges, inſpectors and clerks, *eight* *hillings and four-pence* per day, for their expences and ſervices while attending he general elections, be repealed.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill conformably to he foregoing reſolutions.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *M'Conaughy*, Mr. *Findey* and Mr. *Hockley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled ‘ *An Act to eſtabliſh a public ferry over the river* Schuylkill, *near* Spring-mill, ‘ *in the county of* Montgomery, *and for veſting the right in* Peter Le Gaux, ‘ *his heirs and aſſigns*;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* ‘ *Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the further relief of the ‘ public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain ‘ debts of the United States of *America*, and for funding the ſame, and for ‘ paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of certain debts ‘ of this ſtate, every ſix months," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to direct and authoriſe the laying out an highway through this ſtate, from the waters of the river* Potowmack *to the river* ‘ Ohio, *in order to extend and facilitate the intercourſe which is deſigned to be* ‘ *opened between the ſame*," was read the third time, and in part debated by aragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the reſidue of the* ‘ *donation lands, reſerving a part thereof for a town on* Lake Erie, *to the uſe* ‘ *of the commonwealth*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public onſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and the* ‘ *neighbourhood thereof, from danger by gun-powder*," was read the ſecond ime, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public onſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to alter* ‘ *and amend the act, entituled* " An Act for the relief of officers, ſoldiers ‘ and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have been wounded or ‘ otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the United States," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An ‘ Act to prevent frauds in the packing and preſerving of ſhad and herring ‘ for exportation," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, March 3, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife was read, ſetting forth, that *Rudolph Lehr*, the late huſband of the ſaid *Catharine*, was indebted to *John Pemberton* in divers ſums of money, which, agreeably to the laws of this commonwealth, he tendered him in payment, but upon his refuſing to receive the ſame, ſaid *Lehr* paid the full amount thereof into the treaſury of the county of *Philadelphia* in the year 1779; that in the year 1781, a ſuit was inſtituted by the ſaid *Pemberton*, and judgment obtained, notwithſtanding his having paid the amount thereof to the uſe of the ſtate; and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the *Great-Cove*, in *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the miniſter, truſtees, elders and deacons of the *German* reformed congregation of *Frankford*, in the townſhip of *Oxford*, and county of *Philadelphia*, read *February* 26th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, read *February* 27th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, M. *Roſs*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Powell*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Barr*, to report thereon.

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the General Aſſembly, taking into conſideration the great inconveniency and unequal burthens to which the major part of the good citizens of this commonwealth is ſubjected, by the ſeat of government, land-office, treaſury of the ſtate, Comptroller-General's office and rolls-office, being fixed in the city of *Philadelphia*, which is ſituated on the eaſtern extremity of the ſtate, at the diſtance of near 400 miles from the weſtern boundary thereof, and alſo that government is and ought to be inſtituted for the common benefit of the community, which principles ought at all times to govern the legiſlature of a free ſtate; in order therefore to remove as much as poſſible the burthens, inconveniencies and diſcontents of the people, and to leſſen the expence of government, by removing the ſame to a more central ſituation:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and bring in a bill, to appoint and empower commiſſioners to purchaſe materials, and therewith to erect on the lot of land in the town of *Harriſburg*, the property of this commonwealth, a State-Houſe, for the accommodation of the Supreme Executive Council and General Aſſembly in the execution of their ſeveral truſts, and to appropriate effective funds for the completion of the ſaid State-Houſe.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Hubley*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
2 *David M‘Conaughy*,
3 *Michael Schmyſer*,
4 *David M‘Clellan*,
5 *Joſeph Lilley*,
6 *Henry Tyſon*,
7 *Adam Eichelberger*,
8 *Robert Whitehill*,
9 *Thomas Beale*,
10 *Thomas Kennedy*,
11 *David Mitchell*,
12 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
13 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
14 *David Davis*,
15 *John Piper*,
16 *John Canon*,
17 *Joſeph Powell*,

YEAS.

18 *Frederick Antes*,
19 *Samuel Dale*,
20 *William Findley*,
21 *James Barr*,
22 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
23 *Alexander Wright*,
24 *John M‘Dowell*,
25 *John Flenniken*,
26 *James Alliſon*,
27 *Theophilus Philips*,
28 *John Gilchreeſt*,
29 *Abraham Smith*,
30 *James M‘Calmont*,
31 *Robert Clark*,
32 *Jacob Miley*,
33 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
5 *Iſaac Gray*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,

NAYS.

16 *Richard Thomas*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,
22 *James Clemſon*,
23 *Philip Kreemer*,
24 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
25 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26 *Robert Brown*,
27 *Peter Burkhalter*,
28 *Samuel Wheeler*,
29 *Jacob Reiff*.

So it was carried in the affimative: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *M‘Conaughy*, Mr. *Schmyſer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Powell* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Cheſter* county, praying for an alteration of the teſt-laws, report——

That having well conſidered the prayer of the ſaid petition, they are of opinion that it will conſiſt with good policy to ſatisfy the ſcruples of the petitioners reſpecting the teſt; for in the judgment of your committee it appears, that to a government ſo well eſtabliſhed as ours the ſecurity of an oath cannot be wanted, in the form preſcribed by the exiſting laws.

The objections which have been made to the oath of allegiance are not of the petitioners only; they have occured to many others, who have conſidered the ſubject.

It has been remarked by them, that beſides the declaration of attachment and fidelity, preſent and future, it contains a clauſe of retroſpective aſpect, conceived in words of too uncertain and indefinite import; and that the abjuration ingrafted on it implies a doubt of the fidelity of the citizens, few of whom can have the deſire, as none can have an intereſt, to ſubvert our independence.

This being the caſe, and as the ſtate ſtands in need of all its citizens to ſupply its various ſervices, it muſt be a public injury to keep up a form, which has the effect to diſqualify any number of them.

They therefore offer the following reſolution:

That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to modify the oath of allegiance, in ſuch manner as to reduce it to a ſimple declaration of attachment and fidelity to the government.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the* " *committee of the eſtate of* John Vanderen (*who is* non compos mentis) *to ſell* " *and convey ſome parts of his real and perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome* " *of his debts; to mortgage other parts of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment* " *of others of his debts; to leaſe for a term of years parts of his real eſtate;* " *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of* " Leacock *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until *Monday* next, at three o'clock, P. M.

Monday, *March* 5, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bedford* was read, remonſtrating againſt a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*, and adopted, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the United States in Congreſs aſſembled have eſtabliſhed the rule for apportioning the fœderal debt upon the ſtates to be as their numbers of inhabitants reſpectively, and have recommended to the ſtates to make returns to them, at periods of three years, of ſuch their numbers: And as a knowledge of the ſtate of the population in a country is frequently uſeful in calculations of national importance:

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill to aſcertain, by actual account taken, the number of the inhabitants of the ſtate, and to repeat the ſame at the ſtated period of three years, as required by Congreſs.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Mitchell* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *February* 28th, on the petition of *William Alexander,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th, on the ſeveral petitions for receiving certificates in payment for unpatented lands, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 14th laſt, on the petitions relative to the collection of the exciſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the regulation of bankruptcy," be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Schuylkill, " *near* Spring-mill, *in the county of* Montgomery, *and for veſting the right in* " Peter Le Gaux, *his heirs and aſſigns,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the " further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by re- " ceiving on loan certain debts of the United States of *America,* and for " funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the " intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to* " *incorporate the Preſbyterian church in the townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the* " *county of* Dauphin;" and having in part further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for incorporating the* German *Lutheran congregation in and near the borough of* Lancaſter, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *to incorporate the congregation of Seventh-day Baptiſts reſiding within the townſhip of* Eaſt-Nantmill, *and places adjacent, in the county of* Cheſter.

An ACT *to exonerate and diſcharge* David Cloyd, *late treaſurer of ſtate taxes in and for the county of* Cheſter, *from the payment of* two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings *ſpecie, of which he was robbed.*

An ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act to prevent frauds " in the packing and preſerving of ſhad and herring for exportation."

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 6, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that by an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventeenth day of *February*, 1762, a lot of ground, part of the State-Houſe Square, was veſted in truſtees, for the purpoſe of building a Court-Houſe for the accommodation of the public buſineſs of the ſaid county; that by another act, paſſed *February* 8th, 1785, the ſum of *three thouſand pounds*, ariſing from the ſale of the old gaol and work-houſe, is appropriated for that purpoſe; but that they are confined to the line of *Cheſnut-ſtreet*, although Council coincide in opinion with them, that the front of the ſaid building ſhould fall back from the line of *Cheſnut-ſtreet* about fifteen feet; therefore praying an act may be paſſed, enabling them to extend the ſaid building twelve or fifteen feet further ſouthward.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Abraham Lukens* was read, ſetting forth, that *Catharine Jones*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, by her laſt will, bequeathed unto her three nieces, *Elizabeth Jones*, now the wife of *Robert Lukens*, *Mary Jones* and *Catharine Jones*, the ſum of *fifty pounds*, which ſaid *Mary* and *Catharine* died in their minority, whereby the ſaid *Elizabeth* became entitled to the whole legacy; that *Gayner Bartholomew*, who afterwards intermarried with *David Kinſey*, was appointed executrix of the ſaid laſt will; that the ſaid money was placed at intereſt in the hands of *John Fox*, for the advantage of the ſaid *Elizabeth*; that the ſaid *John Fox* was attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate, real and perſonal, ſold for the uſe of this commonwealth; that the ſaid *Elizabeth* intermarried with *Robert Lukens*, the ſon of the petitioner, who aſſigned the ſame to him; that the petitioner proceeded to *New-York*, in order to recover the ſaid legacy of the ſaid *John Fox*, but without effect; that he is precluded from recovering the legacy, except by the interpoſition of the legiſlature; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Moſes M'Clean*, a deputy ſurveyor within the county of *York*, was read, ſtating divers diſadvantages the ſurveyors labour under, for want of their fees being regulated by law, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* were read, praying for a confirmation of their titles to certain lands in that county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

Petitions from 311 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Peters* and *Montgomery*, in the county of *Franklin*, were read, praying to be authoriſed to hold their general elections at *Mercerſburgh*, in the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Antes*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the navigable waters of the* Franks-town *branch of the river* Juniata *and the river* Conemaugh," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act for co-operating with the ſtate of* Maſſachuſetts Bay, *agreeably to the articles of confederation, in the apprehending of the proclaimed rebels* Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler *and* Eli Parſons," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to alter the teſt of allegiance to this commonwealth required by an act paſſed the fourth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, entituled* An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, in his place, having read a bill, entituled " *An Act for the future endowment of the* Pittſburgh *academy,*" and obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the Speaker, when it was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* " An Act for the ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other lands therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided off to them ſeverally at the end of the war;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 7, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Paul Hauſman,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Lancaſter,* was read, praying to be releaſed from further confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Hart,* junior, and *Thomas Folwell,* Executors of the laſt will and teſtament of *John Hart,* deceaſed, late treaſurer of the county of *Bucks,* was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid *John Hart* was robbed of divers ſums of money, to the amount of *thirty-ſeven pounds four ſhillings,* the property of this commonwealth, and praying the eſtate of the deceaſed may be exonerated from the payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Robert Taylor,* of *Lower-Merion* townſhip, in the county of *Montgomery,* callicoe printer and bleacher, was read, referring to his petition preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *March* 26th, 1785, and praying this

Houſe to take the ſame into conſideration, and grant him ſuch encouragement as they may deem neceſſary.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Daniel Burkhard*, late a Major in the *German* regiment, and of the line of this ſtate, was read, praying to be allowed the depreciation due on his pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from divers citizens, late officers in the Military Hoſpitals, was read, praying they may be entitled to a proportionable part of the donation lands allotted to the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *John M. Ludwick* and *Adam Hendle*, late ſoldiers in the company of artillery commanded by Captain *Bernard Romans*, was read, ſetting forth, that they inliſted and continued in the ſervice for one year; that their ſaid Captain deſerted before the expiration of the time of their inliſtment, without having paid them the amount of pay due to them; and praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *February* 24th, on the petition of 169 inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 26th laſt, on the petition of *Joſeph Hugg*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for co-operating with the ſtate of* Maſſachu-" ſetts-Bay, *agreeably to the Articles of Confederation, in the apprehending of* "*the proclaimed rebels* Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler *and* Eli Par-" ſons," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to repeal part of the act, entituled* "An Act to regulate the general "elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, and to "amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for re-*"*ducing the expences of government*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the committee of the eſtate of* John "Vanderen (*who is* non compos mentis) *to ſell and convey ſome parts of his* "*real and perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other* "*parts of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe* "*for a term of years parts of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein* "*mentioned*;"

"*mentioned,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *reformed congregation of* Frankford, "*in the townſhip of* Oxford, *and county of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 8, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Wyoming*, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſtating their diſtreſſed ſituation, and praying they may be exonerated from the payment of all taxes heretofore aſſeſſed on them.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland* were read, praying certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate from the United States may be received in payment for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Charles Beſſonett* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and* Joſeph Baldwin *in and to a ferry over* Neſhaminy *creek, in the county of* Bucks, *on the* "*main road from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them to maintain a* "*bridge acroſs the ſaid creek at the ſaid place,*" in as much as it will tend to the ruin of the petitioner, and conſiderably injure the bridge erected by him and *Gerſhom Johnſon* over the ſaid creek, under the act, entituled "*An Act* "*for confirming a road, eſtabliſhing a ferry, and erecting a bridge acroſs* Neſhaminy *creek,*" and praying leave to bring in a bill, appointing commiſſioners to declare the compenſation to be given to the petitioner, and upon payment thereof that the ſame be eſtabliſhed a free bridge, agreeably to the tenor and meaning of the ſaid laſt recited act, or to grant him ſuch other relief as this Houſe may deem expedient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Smith* and others was read, ſetting forth, that *Valentine Nelſon*, late of *Middletown* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks*, died, having made his laſt will and teſtament, and thereby bequeathed his real eſtate unto the petitioners; that a certain *James Cooper* and *Naomi* his wife, who were houſe-keepers to the deceaſed, privately withdrew, and carried with them the papers of the deceaſed, until after his interment, when they returned and took poſſeſſion of the ſaid eſtate; that the petitioners have ſeveral witneſſes to prove the facts ſtated in their petition; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Andrew Foreſt*, late a Lieutenant in the third *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, praying to be entitled to ſuch emoluments as officers of equal rank are entitled to; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

A petition from *John Morris,* late chief Surgeon to the legion commanded by General *Armand,* was read, praying to be entitled to a part of the donation lands allotted to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *December* 27th, on the memorial from the miniſter, elders, truſtees and other members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in *Philadelphia,* &c. made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled, "*An Act to re-eſtabliſh the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to the order for the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the weſtern parts of this ſtate, poſtponed *March* 2d, and after conſiderable debate thereon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church at* York-town," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating chimney ſweepers within the city of* Philadelphia, *and the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for co-operating with the ſtate of* Maſſachuſetts-Bay, *agreeably to the Articles of Confederation, in the apprehending of the proclaimed rebels* Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler *and* Eli Parſons," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 9, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1921 inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* and 382 inhabitants of the counties of *Cheſter* and *Cumberland,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lawrence Erb,* late a Lieutenant in one of the five ranging companies raiſed for the defence of the frontiers of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he continued in that ſervice from the thirteenth day of *February,* 1782, until the ſixth day of *November,* 1783, ſome months after the diſcharge of the fœderal army; that conceiving himſelf entitled to all the benefits and emoluments granted to the officers of the *Pennſylvania* line, under the act paſſed the twenty-ſecond day of *December,* 1781, for raiſing the ſaid companies,

panies, he applied to the Comptroller-General for that purpoſe, but was informed the interference of this Houſe was neceſſary, therefore praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Hills*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that he has for ſome time paſt employed himſelf in compleating a map of this ſtate, with a table of the diſtances, for the uſe of the legiſlature of this ſtate, and praying he may be allowed acceſs to the papers in the Surveyor-General's office, in order to enable him to execute his deſign with greater exactneſs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate from the United States may be received in payment for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 576 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed from the town of *Sunbury* to a more convenient part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners and poſſeſſors of marſh and meadow ground, ſituated at the weſt ſide of the mouth of *Darby* creek, in the townſhip of *Ridley*, in the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſtating divers defects in the act of Aſſembly paſſed the fourteenth day of *March*, 1761, entituled "*An Act to enable* ' *the owners and poſſeſſors of the meadow at the weſt ſide of the mouth of* Darby ' *creek, by the river* Delaware, *in the townſhip of* Ridley, *in* Cheſter *county, to* ' *keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair for ever, and to raiſe a* ' *fund to defray the expence thereof;*" and praying leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order for the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to amend* ' *and explain the act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and protect the manu- ' factures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of cer- " tain manufactures which interfere with them, and for the further encou- " ragement of the navigation of the ſtate," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *March* 10, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 1ſt, on the petitions of 385 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, praying for a removal of the ſeat of juſtice, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 6th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating the militia of the ſtate,*" and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* " *amend and explain the act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and protect " the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importa- " tion of certain manufactures which interfere with them, and for the fur- " ther encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate :" Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *J. Moore,* to inſert the following clauſe, *viz.*

Upon all foreign bar-iron imported into this ſtate, *forty ſhillings* per ton ; provided always, that the price current of bar-iron, of the manufacture of *Pennſylvania,* be not more than *twenty-eight pounds* per ton in the city of *Philadelphia.*

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *J. Moore,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *John Salter,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Robert Ralſton,*
4 *Townſend Whelen,*
5 *Adam Hubley,*
6 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

7 *George Roſs,*
8 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
9 *Philip Kreemer,*
10 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
11 *Daniel Clymer,*
12 *Thomas Mawhorter.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
15 *James Clemſon,*
16 *David M'Conaughy,*
17 *Michael Schmyſer,*
18 *David M'Clellan,*
19 *Joſeph Lilley,*
20 *Henry Tyſon,*
21 *Adam Eichelberger,*
22 *Robert Whitehill,*
23 *Thomas Beale,*
24 *Thomas Kennedy,*
25 *David Mitchell,*

NAYS.

26 *David Davis,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Robert Brown,*
29 *Peter Burkhalter,*
30 *John Canon,*
31 *John Piper,*
32 *Joſeph Powell,*
33 *Frederick Antes,*
34 *Samuel Dale,*
35 *William Findley,*
36 *James Barr,*
37 *Alexander Wright,*
38 *John M'Dowell,*
39 *James Alliſon,*
40 *Theophilus Philips,*
41 *John Gilchreeſt,*
42 *Abraham Smith,*
43 *James M'Calmont,*
44 *Charles Moore,*
45 *Samuel Wheeler,*
46 *Jacob Reiff,*
47 *Robert Clark,*
48 *Jacob Miley,*
49 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for co-operating with the ſtate of* Maſſachuſetts-Bay, *agreeably to the Articles of Confederation, in the apprehending of the proclaimed rebels* Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler *and* Eli Parſons.

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of the townſhip of* Leacock, *in the county of* Lancaſter.

An ACT *for incorporating the United Epiſcopal churches of* Trinity *church, in* Oxford *townſhip, and* All Saints *church, in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in* Philadelphia *county, and St.* Thomas's *church, in* Whitemarſh *townſhip, in* Montgomery *county.*

An ACT *to incorporate and endow the* German *college and charity ſchool in the borough and county of* Lancaſter, *in this ſtate.*

An ACT *to alter and amend the act, entituled* "An Act for the relief of "officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have "been wounded or otherwiſe diſabled in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of "the United States."

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 12, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

An extract from the minutes of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, March* 10, 1787.

THE petition of *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon* was by order referred to the honorable Houſe of Aſſembly.

Extract from the Minutes,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, *jun. Secretary.*

And the petition therewith tranſmitted was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 345 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia*, 330 inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter*, 143 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland*, 166 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton*, 57 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, and 137 citizens of this ſtate, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the charter of the ſubſcribers to the* "*Bank of* North-America," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Oliver Evans*, of the county of *New-Caſtle*, in the ſtate of *Delaware*, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented certain machines which will be of general utility, *viz.* A machine firſt intended for the uſe of merchant mills, to convey wheat from the lower floor of the mill, as well as the meal, as faſt as it is ground, to fall on the upper, and will alſo be uſeful in watering of meadows, relieving ſhips or veſſels from ſinking at ſea, *&c.* a machine for ſpreading the meal over the floor to cool, gathering it up again, and attending the boulting hopper and ſcreen; a machine for rubbing wheat, to break the fly eaten grains, lumps of duſt, and to bruiſe the garlick, ſo that they may be the more eaſily ſeparated by the ſcreen and fan; alſo a machine or waggon, to be wrought by an inanimate power, conſtructed to carry heavy burthens; and praying leave to bring in a bill, granting unto him the excluſive right of making and vending the ſaid machines; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Thomas,* Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Antes,* to report thereon.

The petition of the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Gray* and Mr. *Robinſon,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the future endowment of the* Pittſburgh "*Academy,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled, "*An Act for the granting* two hundred pounds *of the* "*unappropriated monies of this commonwealth, for mending and repairing the road* "*from* Hamburgh, *on* Schuylkill, *to the* Northumberland *county line, by* Con- "rad Minick's *ſaw-mill,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to amend an act, entituled* "An Act for the "regulation of bankruptcy," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 13, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 359 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia,* 146 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter,* 136 inhabitants of the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Cheſter,* and 210 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation* "*of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 54 inhabitants of the county of *Philadelphia,* 464 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton,* and 728 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*regulate the militia of this ſtate,*" and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 97 inhabitants of *Ligonier* valley, in the county of *Weſtmoreland,* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice may be removed to a more central part of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Truſtees of the Academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *Daniel Leet* and others, Deputy-Surveyors, was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of the directions of the Surveyor-General, they laid out and ſurveyed three diſtricts, within that tract of country appropriated for the redemption of the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, for which they were to have received the ſum of *three pounds ten ſhillings* for every tract ſurveyed within their reſpective diſtricts, upon the ſales thereof; that thoſe ſales being now poſtponed, without any day affixed for that purpoſe, they pray this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and direct payment to be made them out of the treaſury of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from about 1100 inhabitants of that part of *Cumberland* county, and others ſituate on the north ſide of *Juniata* river and the *Tuſcarora* mountain, were read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the inhabitants of the *Great-Cove,* in the county of *Bedford,* read *March* 3d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Canon* and Mr. *Smith,* to report thereon.

A letter from *Robert Smith* was read, ſetting forth, that he has lately eſtabliſhed a news-paper within the city of *Philadelphia,* and requeſting the patronage of this Houſe, by directing a certain number thereof to be taken for their uſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive* "*the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," was read the third time: Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Beale,*

"That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Piper,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Iſaac Gray,*
3 *George Logan,*
4 *Valentine Upp,*
5 *Robert Whitehill,*
6 *Thomas Beale,*
7 *Thomas Kennedy,*
8 *David Mitchell,*
9 *Joſeph Heiſter,*

YEAS.

10 *Philip Kreemer,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *David Davis,*
13 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
14 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
15 *Robert Brown,*
16 *Peter Burkhalter,*
17 *John Piper,*
18 *Joſeph Powell,*

YEAS.

19 *Frederick Antes,*
20 *Samuel Dale,*
21 *William Findley,*
22 *James Barr,*
23 *Alexander Wright,*
24 *John M'Dowell,*
25 *John Flenniken,*
26 *James Alliſon,*

YEAS.

27 *Theophilus Philips,*
28 *John Gilchreeſt,*
29 *Abraham Smith,*
30 *James M'Calmont,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *Jacob Miley,*
34 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *James Moore,*
10 *Richard Willing,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Townſend Whelen,*
15 *Alexander Lowrey,*

NAYS.

16 *Adam Hubley,*
17 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
18 *Joſeph Work,*
19 *George Roſs,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *David M'Conaughy,*
22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *David M'Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Henry Tyſon,*
26 *Adam Eichelberger,*
27 *Daniel Clymer,*
28 *John Canon,*
29 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
30 *Charles Moore.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

It was thereupon, on motion of Mr. *G. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer,*

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, and that it be the order for that day.

The report of the committee on the petition of 169 inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark,* read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred petitions from 169 freeholders and inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk,* ſubmit a reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, for the following purpoſes:

1ſt. To enable commiſſioners (diſintereſted in the lands within the diſtrict and townſhips) to ſurvey and lay out ſuch and ſo many ſtreets through the diſtrict of *Southwark,* as they may deem neceſſary for its preſent or future advantage.

2d. To enable ſaid commiſſioners to ſurvey and lay out a road from ſaid diſtrict to the ferry over *Schuylkill,* called *State-Iſland* ferry, as ſtrait as may be convenient; and one other road from *George Gray*'s ferry to ſaid diſtrict, in a line as nearly parallel to the ſouthern boundary of the city of *Philadelphia* as may be convenient.

3d. To enable the ſaid commiſſioners to continue the ſtreets of the city of *Philadelphia* ſouthwardly, until they ſhall reach the laſt mentioned road; and to continue the ſtreets of the diſtrict of *Southwark* weſtwardly, to the river *Schuylkill*, through that part only which will be contained between the ſouthern boundary of the city and the road aforeſaid.

4th. To require the ſaid commiſſioners to make return of their proceedings to the Supreme Executive Council, accompanied by an accurate plan of ſuch ſtreets and roads; which proceedings being approved by Council, to be recorded in the rolls-office, for the ſecurity and information of all concerned. Provided, that none of the aforeſaid ſtreets ſhall be opened, until it ſhall appear to Council to be neceſſary, and they ſhall direct the ſame to be done.

5th. To enable the ſaid commiſſioners to examine, whether, after opening the before mentioned roads, ſome parts of the preſent roads may not be diſcontinued, and to report to Council thereon, who may, if they concur with the ſaid commiſſioners, order the ſaid roads, or parts thereof, to be accordingly diſcontinued.

The report of the committee, on the meſſage from the Supreme Executive Council reſpecting a compenſation to Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time:

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*" viz.

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to allow Colonel *Francis Mentges* the ſum of *three hundred pounds*, as a compenſation for ſervices rendered to the ſtate by him, in quality of Inſpector-General of militia.

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, on the petitions of 1610 inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, read *March* 5th, was read the ſecond time as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the ſeveral petitions reſpecting the payment of arrearages due on lands, report,——

That although the arrearages due on lands located, but unpatented, before the year 1776, be demandable, according to law, in ſpecie, or in paper of the emiſſion of *April* 1781, yet ſeveral conſiderations occur to admit, as conſiſtent with equity and good policy, payment of them to be made in the manner requeſted by the petitioners; that is, three fourth parts of the arrearages in funded certificates, and one fourth part in ſpecie, or paper money of the emiſſion of *April* 1781: For,

1ſt. The greatneſs of the ſums required will create ſuch difficulty in complying with the law, as may induce in many inſtances a relinquiſhment of the property to the ſtate, or ſale of it on ſuch diſadvantageous terms as neceſſity is always obliged to ſubmit to, to the great oppreſſion and injury of the poorer ſettlers.

2d. The method ſaid to be daily practiſed of changing the office rights, that is, of renouncing the old warrants and obtaining new ones for the ſame tracts, a device which, enabling the debtor in ſome caſes to make his payments in funded certificates as for lands lately taken up, evades the law, and renders it of leſs importance to be retained.

3d. The progreſs already made in ſinking the emiſſion of *April* 1781, from which little doubt can be entertained of the ſufficiency of the proviſion which will be left to redeem the remainder, without prejudice to its credit.

4th. The relief which the admiſſion of the certificates will ſooner give the people at large in ſinking juſt ſo much of the public debt, to raiſe the annual intereſt of which is found ſo burthenſome and oppreſſive.

From all which your committee ſubmit the following reſolution:

That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to provide that the arrearages due on lands unpatented before the year 1776 be receivable, three fourth parts in certificates funded by the ſtate, and the remaining one fourth part in paper money of the emiſſion of *April* 1781.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Whitehill,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
4 *John Chapman,*
5 *Valentine Upp,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
8 *Joſeph Work,*
9 *George Roſs,*
10 *James Clemſon,*
11 *Michael Schmyſer,*
12 *David M'Clellan,*
13 *Joſeph Lilley,*
14 *Henry Tyſon,*
15 *Adam Eichelberger,*
16 *Robert Whitehill,*
17 *Thomas Beale,*
18 *Thomas Kennedy,*
19 *David Mitchell,*
20 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
21 *Philip Kreemer,*
22 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
23 *David Davis,*
24 *Daniel Clymer,*

YEAS.

25 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
26 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
27 *Robert Brown,*
28 *Peter Burkhalter,*
29 *John Piper,*
30 *John Canon,*
31 *Joſeph Powell,*
32 *Frederick Antes,*
33 *Samuel Dale,*
34 *William Findley,*
35 *James Barr,*
36 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
37 *Alexander Wright,*
38 *John M'Dowell,*
39 *John Flenniken,*
40 *James Alliſon,*
41 *Theophilus Philips,*
42 *John Gilchreeſt,*
43 *Abraham Smith,*
44 *James M'Calmont,*
45 *Jacob Reiff,*
46 *Robert Clark,*
47 *Jacob Miley,*
48 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Richard Willing,*

NAYS.

10 *Robert Ralſton,*
11 *Samuel Evans,*
12 *Richard Thomas,*
13 *Townſend Whelen,*
14 *Alexander Lowrey,*
15 *Adam Hubley,*
16 *David M'Conaughy,*
17 *Charles Moore,*
18 *Samuel Wheeler.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Thereupon, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Gray,* Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing report.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to* “ *direct and authoriſe the laying out of an highway through this ſtate, from the* “ *waters of the river* Potowmack *to the river* Ohio, *in order to extend and*

“ *facilitat*

"*facilitate the intercourſe which is deſigned to be opened between the ſame* "*rivers*," and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *March* 14, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 39 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of* "*the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 209 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, 293 inhabitants of the townſhip of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, 1881 inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, and 484 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act* "*for regulating the militia of the ſtate*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the officers of the militia of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petitions, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers owners or occupiers of marſh meadow in the northern and ſouthern diſtricts of *Kingſeſſing* and *Tinicum* was read, ſetting forth, that the laws now in force reſpecting the ſaid meadows are greatly defective, and require conſiderable amendments, and praying leave to bring in a bill to repeal the former laws, and for the better improvement and regulation of the banks, *&c.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the ſixth diſtrict for holding the general elections within the county of *Bedford* was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their ſaid elections at the houſe of *David Lowrey*, in *Tyrone* townſhip.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Burnt Cabin* valley, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying to be included in the county intended to be erected by the act, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Bed- "ford *into a ſeparate county*."

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 168 inhabitants of *Milford* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying certificates given in lieu of pay due to the militia of this ſtate may be received in payment for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *David Brown*, of the county of *Lancaſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *Auguſt* 1780 he advanced twelve thouſand and fifty dollars, being arrearages due to ſeveral of the ſeven months men, and took their orders on Colonel *Samuel J. Atlee*; that notwithſtanding repeated applications were made by him for payment, he hath not been able to recover the ſame; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

The petition of *Daniel Leet*, and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

The petitions of *Peters*, *Antrim*, *Waſhington* and *Montgomery* townſhips, in the county of *Franklin*, read *February* 23d, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 12th, on the petition of the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Joſeph Hugg*, read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to determine on the petition of Colonel *Joſeph Hugg*, of *Glouceſter* county, in *New-Jerſey*, beg leave to report——

That a judgment has been obtained againſt him, without trial, in the court of common pleas of *Philadelphia* county, and ſince the entry of the ſaid judgment, teſtimony which has been laid before your committee, and which would deſtroy the validity of the ſaid judgment, if the ſame was permited to be given in evidence, and which teſtimony was not in the power of the ſaid *Hugg* at that time, notwithſtanding which the ſaid court refuſes to open the ſaid judgment:

Your committee therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the petition of Colonel *Joſeph Hugg*, with the papers relating thereto, be ſubmitted to the conſideration of the Judges of the Supreme Court, for their opinion thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “*An Act for regulating the militia of the ſtate*,” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be re-committed, with the addition of Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *J. Heiſter*.

A member, in his place, read a bill, entituled “*An Act to incorporate and endow an Academy or public School in the town of* Waſhington,” and, having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to repeal part of an act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, and to amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries*,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to alter the teſt of allegiance to this commonwealth required by an act paſſed the fourth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, entituled* “An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for the " further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by re- " ceiving on loan certain debts of the United States of *America*, and for " funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the " intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *March* 15, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Roſs*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill to continue the appointments of the Surveyor-General, Receiver-General and Secretary of the Land-office, to provide a competent ſalary for the Judge of the Admiralty, and to limit the expences of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

A motion was made by Mr. *Whitehill* ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

To authoriſe the Comptroller-General to iſſue certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate, whoſe ſervants or apprentices were inliſted during the late war.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed *December* 26th laſt, on the motion reſpecting the powers exerciſed by the officers of the land-office, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of the commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Commiſſioners of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, report,——

That two lots of ground, part of the State-Houſe ſquare, were veſted in truſtees, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon Court-Houſes for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, one of which lots is on the north-eaſt corner of ſaid ſquare, and the other on the north-weſt corner, being each 50 feet front on *Cheſnut-ſtreet*, and 73 feet deep.

That there are now preparations making for building on one of the aforeſaid lots, and it appears to be the opinion of Council and of the Commiſſioners, that the front of ſaid building ſhould fall back fifteen feet from the line of *Cheſnut-ſtreet*, and a regard to ſymmetry in appearance requires that the correſponding building ſhould front on the ſame line.

It appears reaſonable to your committee that a grant of fifteen feet be made, to be joined to the ſouthern boundary of ſaid lots: They therefore offer a reſolution:

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſes aforeſaid.

The report of the committee, read *February* 28th, on the petition of *George Wall*, junior, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *George Wall,* junior, have leave to bring in a bill, veſting in him, his heirs and aſſigns, for the term of twenty-one years, the excluſive privilege of making and vending the ſurveying inſtrument by him invented, agreeably to the prayer of his petition.

The report of the committee, read *March* 5th, on the petitions relative to the collection of the exciſe, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to report a plan for the better collection of the exciſe, beg leave to ſtate to the Houſe ſome of the facts upon which they have been induced to propoſe alterations in the laws for collecting that revenue.

By a return from the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia* they find, that in the year 1785 there was entered at the cuſtom-houſe 293,561 gallons of wine, 122,789 gallons of brandy, and 1,074,523 gallons of rum, making together 1,341,786 gallons, beſides what was again exported: To this may be added, for rum diſtilled in this ſtate, 50,000 gallons: And if allowance is made for what is ſent to the neighbouring ſtates without paſſing through the cuſtom-houſe, as well as for the expence of collection, this revenue ought to produce £ 35,000 *per annum*——whereas it has not yet exceeded £ 15,000.

From the ſtatement of the public accounts publiſhed by the Comptroller-General, and a ſubſequent account of the payments received in 1785 and 1786, it appears, that between the end of the year 1783 and laſt of *December,* 1786, there has been received into the public treaſury, for exciſe, £ 55,989 17 3; which has been received from the counties as follows——

From the city and county of *Philadelphia,*	£ 34,715	12	11
the county of *Bucks,*	2,755	11	5
the county of *Cheſter,*	4,637	6	5
the county of *Lancaſter,*	4,525	8	6
the county of *York,*	2,033	11	9
the county of *Cumberland*	249	3	8
the county of *Northampton,*	2,155	0	3
the county of *Berks,*	3,319	0	2
the county of *Weſtmoreland,*	26	16	0
the county of *Northumberland,*	75	17	0
the county of *Montgomery,* for 1785 & 1786,	1,168	0	0
the county of *Dauphin,*	328	9	2
	£ 55,989	17	3

The counties of *Waſhington, Fayette* and *Franklin* have not yet paid any thing.

From theſe facts the committee infer, that great defects exiſt in the laws which provide for the collection of this revenue, and that the collectors in ſome of the counties muſt be inattentive to their duty. The city and county of *Philadelphia* appear to have paid three fifths of the whole ſum collected, nor does the contribution from the others appear to be proportioned to their ſtate of population or probable conſumption. They would inſtance the county of *Cumberland,* which in two years has paid but £ 31 2 2.

From the information obtained by the committee, as well from the exciſe officer in this city as others, it appears that the principal evaſions of this duty ariſe from two circumſtances. The firſt, by entering liquors intended for tranſportaion into the interior counties in fictitious names; the other by introducing them from the neighbouring ſtates without any entry.

To remedy theſe defects, as well as ſome others which have been pointed out to them, the committee offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That from and after the day of every perſon importing into this ſtate any wine, rum or other liquor, ſubject to the payment of exciſe, ſhall, before he lands the ſame, make entry thereof with the officer of exciſe for the city and county of *Philadelphia*; and the Collector of the port of *Philadelphia* ſhall be reſtrained from granting permits for the landing of ſuch liquor, till a certificate from the Collector of exciſe be produced and lodged with him.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of the importers of all liquors in bottles, or in any package leſs than twenty gallons, be accountable for the exciſe thereon.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of no Collector of exciſe ſhall grant a permit for the removal of any liquor, till the perſon demanding ſuch permit make oath or affirmation (which oath or affirmation the ſaid Collector ſhall be authoriſed to tender) as to the truth of the entry by them made, and the ſaid entry ſhall contain the names of the perſon from whom ſuch liquor is bought, as well as of the purchaſer, with their place of reſidence, and a true account of the quantity and quality of ſuch liquor.

Reſolved, That the county Collectors of exciſe be authoriſed and directed to appoint one or more Deputies under them reſpectively, whoſe places of reſidence ſhall be on or near the moſt public road leading into the county from the neighbouring ſtate; and the Deputies ſo appointed ſhall have all the powers now exerciſed by the Collectors. And every perſon bringing liquor into this ſtate by land ſhall enter the ſame with the Collector of the firſt county into which he ſhall come. And if ſuch liquor ſhall be found within this ſtate, after having paſſed the place of abode of any Collector or Deputy-Collector, or through any one county within this ſtate, ſuch liquor ſhall be forfeited, together with the carriage and horſes conveying the ſame.

Reſolved, That it be the duty of the Collector of exciſe for the city and county of *Philadelphia* to tranſmit to the Collectors of each of the counties, once in three months (or oftener, if he ſhall think it neceſſary) a tranſcript of all the entries made in his office, in the names of perſons reſiding within their reſpective counties; and ſhall furniſh the Comptroller-General with duplicates of ſuch entries. And the Collectors of exciſe of the ſeveral counties ſhall, at the end of every three months, make returns to the Comptroller-General of all entries made with them, or their Deputies, within the three months next preceding the date of ſuch return. And the Comptroller-General ſhall compare the entries made with the Collector of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, and thoſe made with the Collectors of the counties, and if it ſhall appear that any fraud has been committed, he ſhall direct proſecutions againſt the delinquents.

Reſolved, That for the better collection of the exciſe upon liquors diſtilled within this ſtate, every perſon who ſhall make uſe of any ſtill, within any of the counties of this ſtate, for the purpoſe of diſtilling ſpirit from any of the products thereof, ſhall obtain from the Collector of exciſe of the county where ſuch ſtill is erected, a licence for ſuch ſtill, and ſhall pay, in lieu of exciſe for the liquor by him diſtilled, per annum for every ſtill containing 60 gallons, and in like proportion for thoſe of leſs or greater capacity.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of every waggon, cart, dray or other carriage, together with the horſes or cattle drawing the ſame, which ſhall be found conveying liquor not duly entered, ſhall be forfeited, as well as ſuch liquor.

Reſolved, That from and after the day of no perſon ſhall obtain a licence for ſelling liquor by retail, who ſhall not pay, or ſecure to the commonwealth the payment of *twelve pounds* per annum, which payments ſhall be made quarterly.

Reſolved, That to compenſate the perſons appointed as deputies to the county Collectors for their ſervices, they ſhall be entitled to receive *one ſhilling,* and no more, for every permit by them reſpectively granted, and *two and an half per cent.* upon the amount of the exciſe ariſing on the liquors ſo entered.

And whereas it is of great importance that ſome certain proviſion ſhould be made, whereby the principal of the debts of the ſtate may be leſſened, and it is reaſonable to expect that the exciſe, when carefully collected, will produce conſiderably more than the intereſt of the debt wherewith it is charged.

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer be directed to reſerve and keep apart all that the ſaid revenue ſhall produce, more than 15,000l. and the ſum ſo reſerved ſhall be annually applied, under the direction of the General Aſſembly, towards the redemption of the principal of the debts of the ſtate; nor ſhall it be made uſe of for any other purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *M'Dowell* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The report of the committee, read *December* 27th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act for granting unto* George Wall, *junior, the ſole and excluſive privi-" lege of making and vending a mathematical inſtrument by him invented, for " the term of twenty-one years,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of* Bedford *county into a ſe-" parate county,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to direct and authoriſe the laying out of an highway through this ſtate, from the waters of the river* Potowmack *to the river* Ohio, *in order to extend and facilitate the intercourſe which is deſigned to be opened between the ſame rivers.*

An ACT *to amend and explain an act, entituled* " An Act to encourage and " protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the " importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them, and for " the further encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate."

An ACT *to amend an act, entituled* " An Act for the regulation of bank-" ruptcy."

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, March 16, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 121 inhabitants of the city and liberties of *Philadelphia*, 203 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks*, 301 inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter*, and 41 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of the* "*ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and praying that the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *John Penn*, junior, *John Penn* and *Richard Penn*, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

WE beg leave to addreſs you, as Speaker of the Honorable Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, earneſtly, but with all poſſible reſpect,

Praying, That the memorial preſented by us to a former Houſe (which we are prepared to ſupport with proper documents) may now be taken up for a final conſideration and diſcuſſion, according to the prayer thereof.

It becomes every day more neceſſary that there ſhould be an arrangement and ſettlement of affairs among the family and deſcendents of *William Penn*, our honored anceſtor, and that they may not remain longer in that ſtate of uncertainty and diſtreſs, from which they can only be relieved by the immediate attention of your Honorable Houſe to the weighty matters ſet forth in their ſaid memorial, and a reviſal of former legiſlative tranſactions relating to their property, which, we perſuade ourſelves, will lead to ſuch an amicable and final ſettlement, as may do honor to the feelings and councils of a great and generous people, not forgetful either of their original founder, or that all his foundations were laid in the bond of peace, and upon the pureſt principles of unchangeable juſtice. *We are, &c.*

JOHN PENN, *junior,*
JOHN PENN,
RICHARD PENN.

The Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly, &c.

And the memorial therein referred to was alſo read, and
Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *December* 30th laſt, on the petition of *Samuel Vaughan*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to obtain the number of the inhabitants within the ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to* "*the Bank of* North-America."

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be debated by paragraphs?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Willing,*
15 *Robert Ralſton,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Thomas,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*

YEAS.

19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *George Roſs,*
24 *James Clemſon,*
25 *David M'Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Joſeph Lilley,*
29 *Henry Tyſon,*
30 *Adam Eichelberger,*
31 *Daniel Clymer,*
32 *John Canon,*
33 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
34 *Charles Moore,*
35 *Samuel Wheeler,*
36 *Jacob Reiff.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *Robert Whitehill,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
11 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
12 *Robert Brown,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Joſeph Powell,*

NAYS.

16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *Samuel Dale,*
18 *William Findley,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John M'Dowell,*
22 *John Flenniken,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Theophilus Philips,*
25 *John Gilchreeſt,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *James M'Calmont,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *Jacob Miley,*
30 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any Preſident, Director, or any Officer or Servant of the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, being entruſted with any bill or note, or any bond, deed, money or other effects, belonging to the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, or having any bill or note, or any bond, deed, money or other effects, lodged or depoſited with the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, or with ſuch Officer or Servant, as an Officer or Servant of the ſaid Preſident, Directors and Company, ſhall ſecrete, embezzle, or run away with any ſuch bill, note, bond, deed, money or other effects, or any part of them, every Preſident, Director, Officer or Servant, ſo offending, and being thereof convicted in due form of law, in any court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery within this commonwealth, ſhall be deemed guilty of felony, and ſhall ſuffer as a felon, agreeably to the laws for the puniſhment of grand larceny."

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *G. Heiſter*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Willing,*
15 *Robert Ralſton,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Thomas,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *George Roſs,*
24 *James Clemſon,*
25 *David M'Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Joſeph Lilley,*
29 *Henry Tyſon,*
30 *Adam Eichelberger,*
31 *Daniel Clymer,*
32 *John Canon,*
33 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
34 *Charles Moore,*
35 *Samuel Wheeler,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *Robert Whitehill,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
11 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
12 *Robert Brown,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Joſeph Powell,*
16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *Samuel Dale,*
18 *William Findley,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John M'Dowell,*
22 *John Flenniken,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Theophilus Philips,*
25 *John Gilchreeſt,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *James M'Calmont,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*, to adopt the additional clauſes, as follow, *viz.*

" And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any Stockholder or Stockholders of the ſaid Bank ſhall diſapprove of the regulations contained in this act, or any of them, reſpecting the ſame, and ſhall ſignify his or her diſapprobation thereof to the Preſident, Directors, or the Caſhier of the ſaid Bank, in writing, ſubſcribed and atteſted by one witneſs at the leaſt, within ſix months from and after the publication of this act, he or ſhe ſhall be entitled to receive from the ſaid Preſident and Directors the whole of his or her ſhare or ſtock, if the ſame ſhall be in the hands of the Preſident and Directors of the Bank, or otherwiſe, ſuch proportion thereof as the Bank may be in poſſeſſion of in ſix months after the time of ſuch application; and the Preſident and Directors of the ſaid Bank ſhall, at the requeſt of ſuch Stockholder or Stockholders, make out fair and true accounts of the ſhare or ſhares of ſtock to ſuch Stockholder or Stockholders reſpectively belonging giving credit for all profits that have been made, and diſcounting or deducting therefrom their proportion of all debts outſtanding."

" And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That in caſe of the default, neglect or refuſal of the Preſident, Directors or Caſhier, ſo to pay over to ſuch Stockholder or Stockholders his, her or their proportion of the ſtock that may be in hand at the expiration of the ſaid term of ſix months, or to render the ſaid account when required, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Stockholder or Stockholders to recover the ſame in the ſupreme court, by action on the caſe, or upon account, in which it ſhall be ſufficient to alledge that the defendants are indebted to the plaintiff or plaintiffs in the ſum demanded, for money lent and received to the uſe of the ſaid plaintiff or plaintiffs, and that payment thereof hath not been, nor account rendered for the ſame, to which no demurrer ſhall be allowed for not purſuing the uſual forms of declarations on ſuch caſes, nor ſhall the ſaid court allow any plea to ſuch declaration, except the general iſſues, unleſs the ſame be reverſed by the affidavit of at leaſt one credible witneſs."

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Robert Whitehill*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *David Davis*,
10 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
11 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
12 *Robert Brown*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *John Piper*,
15 *Joſeph Powell*,

YEAS.

16 *Frederick Antes*,
17 *Samuel Dale*,
18 *William Findley*,
19 *James Barr*,
20 *Alexander Wright*,
21 *John M'Dowell*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *James Alliſon*,
24 *Theophilus Philips*,
25 *John Gilchreeſt*,
26 *Abraham Smith*,
27 *James M'Calmont*,
28 *Robert Clark*,
29 *Jacob Miley*,
30 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,

NAYS.

5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *John Salter*,

NAYS.

9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Willing,*
15 *Robert Ralſton,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Thomas,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*

NAYS.

23 *George Roſs,*
24 *James Clemſon,*
25 *David M'Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *David M'Clellan,*
28 *Joſeph Lilley,*
29 *Henry Tyſon,*
30 *Adam Eichelberger,*
31 *Daniel Clymer,*
32 *John Canon,*
33 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
34 *Charles Moore,*
35 *Samuel Wheeler,*
36 *Jacob Reiff.*

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being* " *enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Willing,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*

YEAS.

19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *George Roſs,*
23 *James Clemſon,*
24 *David M'Conaughy,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Joſeph Lilley,*
28 *Henry Tyſon,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *Daniel Clymer,*
31 *John Canon,*
32 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
33 *Charles Moore,*
34 *Samuel Wheeler,*
35 *Jacob Reiff.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *George Logan,*
3 *Robert Whitehill,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Philip Kreemer,*

NAYS.

9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
12 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
13 *Robert Brown,*
14 *Peter Burkhalter,*
15 *John Piper,*
16 *Joſeph Powell,*

NAYS.

17 *Frederick Antes*,
18 *Samuel Dale*,
19 *William Findley*,
20 *James Barr*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John M'Dowell*,
23 *John Flenniken*,
24 *James Alliſon*,

NAYS.

25 *Theophilus Philips*,
26 *John Gilchreeſt*,
27 *Abraham Smith*,
28 *James M'Calmont*,
29 *Robert Clark*,
30 *Jacob Miley*,
31 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *March* 17, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Joſeph M'Clellan*, *Caleb James* and *Caleb North*, Commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter*, was read, ſetting forth, that in purſuance of an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the 20th day of *March*, 1780, a lot of land, ſituated in the townſhip of *Eaſt-Caln*, in the ſaid county, was purchaſed by *William Clingan* and others, for the purpoſe of erecting thereon a Court-houſe and Priſon for the uſe of the ſaid county; that by a Supplement to the ſaid act, paſſed the 22d day of *March*, 1784, a lot of ground was purchaſed in the townſhip of *Goſhen*, in the ſaid county, and a Court-houſe and Priſon erected thereon, whereby the firſt mentioned lot of ground is rendered uſeleſs for the purpoſes aforeſaid; therefore praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing certain perſons to ſell and convey the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Abraham Smith* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath been driven from his habitation at *Wyoming*, and plundered of his perſonal property, by reaſon of his attachment to and aiding in execution of the laws of this commonwealth, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Joſeph Baldwin*, in behalf of himſelf and *Joſeph Vandegrift*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of *Charles Beſſonet*, read *March* 8th, and praying the bill, authoriſing them to erect and maintain a bridge acroſs *Neſhaminy* creek, may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter and elders of the Upper Preſbyterian congregation of *Marſh-creek*, in the county of *York*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

Petitions from 192 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to revive the incorporation of* "*the ſubſcribers to the Bank of* North-America," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the Commiſſioners of the county of *Bedford*, read *February* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *C. Moore*, to report thereon.

The letter and memorial of the Honorable *John Penn*, junior, *John Penn* and *Richard Penn*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the ſixth election diſtrict in the county of *Bedford*, read *March* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Mitchell*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *M'Calmont* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 12th, on the petition of *Oliver Evans*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 24th laſt, on the petitions of divers inhabitants of *Newberry* and *Manahan* townſhips, in the county of *York*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Samuel Vaughan*, Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable foreigners or aliens to hold lands and tenements in fee, and to take mortgages, or other aſſurances valid in law, to ſecure the payment of monies advanced or lent thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *March* 15th, on the motion for appointing a Board of Commiſſioners of Property in the weſtern parts of the ſtate, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution?*"—viz.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, appointing a Board of Commiſſioners of Property for the three counties of *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, to ſit in ſome one place in the ſaid counties, to hear and determine on caveats entered, where the parties reſide within the ſaid counties."

It was carried in the negative.

The report of the committee, read *March* 10th, on the petitions of 385 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to remove the ſeat of juſtice from the town of *Sunbury* to the town of *Northumberland*, in the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered, That Mr. *J. Heiſter*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Dale* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of owners of lands in the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne*, read *December* 30th laſt, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz*.

The committee on the petition of owners of lands in *Northumberland* and *Luzerne* report,——

That the petitioners having applied to the Houſe for a road to lead from the river *Suſquehanna*, at *Neſcopeck*, to the *Lehigh*, but which from the preſent

ſent circumſtances of that country the inhabitants are not able to lay out without legiſlative aid, the committee conceive this to be one of thoſe occaſions in which the public money may be properly and advantageouſly employed.

They are not, however, of opinion that any of the monies formerly appropriated to a road from *Wyoming* to the *Lehigh*, can, as is propoſed in the petition, be diverted to the preſent object; they rather recommend that a ſmall ſum be ſpecially allotted thereto. Conformably to this ſentiment, they offer the following reſolution,

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed, to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a road from the river *Suſquehanna*, at *Neſcopeck*, to the river *Lehigh*, and to expend therein any ſum not exceeding *one hundred and fifty pounds*, to be taken from any fund not otherwiſe appropriated.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *J. Moore*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, read *March* 10th, was read the ſecond time, and in part adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on the petition from the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, called *Connecticut* claimants, report,——

That conceiving it of importance to the ſubject, they enter upon their report by firſt ſtating to the Houſe, that during the former ſeſſion, and in conference between a committee of the Houſe and the agents of the *Connecticut* claimants, *John Franklin* and *Jenkins*, the agents, were explicitly told, that every caſe would be conſidered ſpecially, and that no claims, unleſs urged in behalf of individuals, and for particular occupancies, would be received. The agents, admitting the propriety of this reſtrictive mode, doubted not of a conformity to it on the part of their conſtituents, when next they ſhould make application to the Houſe: But the preſent petition, on the contrary, advances claims collectively, and is made for entire and extenſive diſtricts. From this circumſtance, the Houſe might well wave any preſent deliberations on the ſubject of the claims; but in conſideration of the peace of the county of *Luzerne*, as well as to teſtify our ſatisfaction at the ſubmiſſion at length paid to the laws by the petitioners, the committee recommend to the Houſe, notwithſtanding, to proceed to eſtabliſh the principles on which they will quiet the poſſeſſions and occupancies of the petitioners, and others of that country in the like predicament; and alſo thoſe on which they will make compenſation to ſuch proprietors under titles from this ſtate, as may in conſequence be deprived of their lands.

The committee, in connection with the ſubject, refer the Houſe to a printed paper accompanying this report, dated at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, *December* 26th, 1786, and ſigned *Joel Barlow*, as worthy of their animadverſion. This paper, purporting to be the reſolutions of the *Suſquehanna* Company, revives their pretended title to a large territory within this ſtate, including in it the lands of the *Connecticut* ſettlers, directs a mode of diſtribution, and intimates a deſign of erecting it into a government, independent of the authority of this ſtate.

Upon the whole matter, the committee recommend to the Houſe the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That ſuch of the people called *Connecticut* claimants, their heirs or aſſigns, as were the actual poſſeſſors or occupants of lands within the county of *Luzerne* at or before the date of the decree at *Trenton,* be quieted and confirmed in their ſeveral poſſeſſions and occupancies.

That compenſation in lands, equivalent in the value, be made therefor to proprietors under the rights of this ſtate.

That commiſſioners be appointed to carry the foregoing reſolutions into execution.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Hubley* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Whereupon, On motion of Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill,*

Ordered, That the reſidue of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year* " *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the* " *funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for un-* " *patented lands, which were located before the declaration of independence,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church* " *in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the* German *Lutheran congregation in the borough of* " Reading, *in the county of* Berks," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the* " *diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for* " *the accommodation of the inhabitants, and to lay out the roads therein mention-* " *ed through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* " Paſſyunk," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the* " *navigable waters of the* Franks-Town *branch of the river* Juniata *and the* " *river* Conemaugh," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and the* " *neighbourhood thereof, from damage by gun-powder,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers* " *to the Bank of* North-America," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table:

And on the queſtion,—" *Shall the ſame be enacted into a law?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Willing,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*

YEAS.

19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *George Roſs,*
23 *James Clemſon,*
24 *David M‘Conaughy,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *David M‘Clellan,*
27 *Joſeph Lilley,*
28 *Henry Tyſon,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *Daniel Clymer,*
31 *John Cannon,*
32 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
33 *Charles Moore,*
34 *Samuel Wheeler,*
35 *Jacob Reiff.*

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray,*
2 *Robert Whitehill,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
11 *Robert Brown,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *John Piper,*
14 *Joſeph Powell,*

NAYS.

15 *Frederick Antes,*
16 *Samuel Dale,*
17 *William Findley,*
18 *James Barr,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John M‘Dowell,*
21 *James Alliſon,*
22 *Theophilus Philips,*
23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *Abraham Smith,*
25 *James M‘Calmont,*
26 *Robert Clark,*
27 *Jacob Miley,*
28 *John Carſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, the bill enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 19, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 177 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* and 140 inhabitants of the county of *Cumberland,* were read, praying certificates for debts due from the United States to the citizens of this ſtate may be received in payment for unpatented lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the religious ſociety called Quakers was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

The Religious Society called Quakers, in the ſaid ſtate, take the liberty again to repreſent,

THAT we cannot, conſiſtent with our chriſtian duty, omit to requeſt your ſerious attention to our memorial dated in the Second Month, 1786, preſented to the Aſſembly of laſt year, on the ſubject of the militia law, and our addreſs in the Ninth Month following to the committee of that Houſe, to whom the ſame was referred, the cauſe of concern we then expreſſed ſtill ſubſiſting, and being renewed by the bill lately publiſhed, and propoſed to be enacted into a law, for the eſtabliſhment of a militia, inflicting fines and forfeitures on thoſe who are reſtrained by a principle of conſcience from actively conforming or contributing thereto.

A candid and unprejudiced attention to the reaſons we then offered in objection to the nature, tendency and operation of ſuch laws, we apprehend, will be found to apply with undiminiſhed weight to the bill now in contemplation, the principles on which it is founded being eſſentially the ſame; inconſiſtent with religious and civil liberty, its effects muſt be equally oppreſſive and pernicious; and we have reaſon to believe, that the virtuous and wiſe part of your conſtituents muſt be convinced of its inexpediency.

Theſe conſiderations appearing to us important, and being materially affected by the operation of ſuch acts of the legiſlature, we are induced to offer them, in addition to what we have before ſuggeſted to the late Houſe on the ſubject, and are

Your real Friends.

Signed on behalf, and by direction of a meeting of the repreſentatives of the ſaid people called Quakers, held in Philadelphia, *the* 15*th day of the Third Month*, 1787.

JAMES PEMBERTON,
Clerk at this time.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the rector, church-wardens and veſtrymen of the United *Swediſh* Lutheran Churches of *Wiccacoa*, *Kingſeſſing* and *Upper Merion*, called *Gloria Dei*, St. *Thomas's* and *Chriſt-church*, was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from certain inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* was read, ſtating, that divers ſums of money have been levied upon and collected from divers non-jurors within this ſtate, over and above the ſums quotaed upon the reſpective counties within the ſame, and praying this Houſe to adopt ſuch meaſures as may tend to cauſe a due inveſtigation of the application of ſuch monies.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, was read, ſtating that he preſented, for the inſpection of the members of this Houſe, a model of a bridge of one arch, compoſed of iron bars, to the extent of three or four hundred feet, intended to paſs over rivers, and requeſting a committee may be appointed for the purpoſe of bringing the matter more circumſtantially before the Houſe, by examining into the principles and practicability of the conſtruction, and rendering it uſeful.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Rye* and *Greenwood*, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying to be allowed to hold their general elections at *Hugh Miller*'s, in the townſhip of *Rye* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Philip Struben*, late a Lieutenant of dragoons, commanded by Captain *Van Heer*, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, praying he may be allowed a part of the donation lands allotted for the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Cheſter*, and *Lancaſter* was read, ſtating the many loſſes they ſuſtained during the late war, and praying a further time for patenting their lands, that they may be exonerated from the payment of any intereſt due thereon previous to the late revolution, and that funded certificates for debts due to the citizens of this ſtate from the United States may be received in payment therefor.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 14th, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Peters*, *Antrim*, *Waſhington* and *Montgomery* townſhips, in the county of *Franklin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 3d, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, on the petition of divers citizens of *Pennſylvania*, incloſing a memorial and petition intended to have been preſented by the late *Samuel J. Atlee*, Eſquire, read *December* 22d laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *congregation* "*of* Frankford, *in the townſhip of* Oxford, *and county of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for regulating chimney-ſweepers within the city* "*of* Philadelphia, *and the diſtrict of* Southwark *and townſhip of the* Northern-"Liberties, *in the county of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to obtain the number of the inhabitants within* "*the ſtate*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, ' lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes ' and alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and to lay out ' the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips ' of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of ' credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for ' redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the ' arrearages due for unpatented lands, which were located before the declaration ' of independence,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 20, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the borough of *Cheſter* was read, praying that the act for erecting a draw-bridge over *Cheſter* creek may be revived.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *York* was read, ſtating divers grievances they labour under with reſpect to the immediate enforcing the collection of taxes, and the mode of paying public creditors without diſtinction being had to the original holders of certificates, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and that the pay of the General Aſſembly, Members of Council and the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties ſhould be leſſened, and that of Jurymen and perſons preſiding at general elections be aboliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *Thomas Paine,* Eſquire, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Morris,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

The Judges of the ſupreme court, to whom it was referred, *March* 14th, to report their opinion on the caſe of *Joſeph Hugg,* accordingly tranſmitted in writing their opinion thereon, which was read, as follows,

To the Honorable the House of Assembly *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

WE have read the petition of Mr. *Joſeph Hugg,* with the papers accompanying the ſame, referred by the Honorable the Houſe of Aſſembly, on the fourteenth inſtant, to the Judges of the ſupreme court, for their opinion thereon, and alſo the particulars of his caſe as reported by the committee, and having maturely conſidered the ſame, and the tendency of a legiſlative interpoſition in cauſes brought in the courts of juſtice, are humbly of opinion that the Honorable Houſe ought not to interfere in this caſe, as the precedent might create a belief that the legiſlature were the ſupreme judiciary power in the government, contrary to the principles of the conſtitution.

If any particular equitable circumſtances ſhould appear in the caſe of Mr. *Joſeph Hugg*, which our laws, and the ſettled and eſtabliſhed rules and cuſtoms in our courts, cannot afford him the full benefit of, yet it is better that a private miſchief ſhould be ſuffered, than a public inconvenience endured. It is true, that caſes of hardſhip ſometimes occur in our courts, wherein no adequate relief can be given, as they are now conſtituted; and the misfortune muſt be ſubmitted to, until it ſhall pleaſe the legiſlature to veſt ſome tribunal with powers reſembling thoſe of the high court of chancery in *England* particularly ſuch as reſpect fraud, accidents and truſts.

THOMAS M'KEAN,
JACOB RUSH,
GEORGE BRYAN.

Philadelphia, March 20th, 1787.

A motion was made by Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wheeler*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the Supreme Executive Council have recommended to this Houſe to make compenſation to Colonel *Francis Mentges* for ſervices rendered, for loſs of time and expences incurred in inſpecting into the condition of the militia, and of the public ſtores, arms and accoutrements: Therefore,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to allow Colonel *Francis Mentges* the ſum of   for the ſervices rendered as aforeſaid.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid reſolution?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

On motion of Mr. *Brackenridge*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned, for electing a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, in the room of the Honorable *Charles Pettit*, Eſquire, whoſe delegation expires on the ſeventh day of *April* next, and that the nomination continue until that day.

The committee appointed *March* 14th, on the petition of *Daniel Leet*, and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read *March* 17th, on the petition of *Oliver Evans*, was read the ſecond time; whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, granting him the excluſive right of making and vending the machines invented by him for the uſe of mills, for the term of fourteen years.

The report of the committee read yeſterday, on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Your committee, to whom was referred the petitions and memorials reſpecting the ſeat of juſtice for *Weſtmoreland* county, beg leave to report,——

That they have examined the ſaid petitions, &c. and find that there hath come into the preſent ſeſſion ſeventeen ſeparate petitions, &c. praying for the removal of the ſeat of juſtice from *Greenſburgh*, ſigned by one thouſand ſix hundred and twenty-nine inhabitants, being a majority of the county, even ſuppoſing the propoſed diviſion ſhould not take place. That by ſome depoſitions tranſmitted to us, it appears that five of the ſigners ſay they were either miſinformed by thoſe who carried about the petitions, or did not underſtand properly the deſign, and ſome members of the committee who are acquainted have diſcovered four names of ſuch as are under age, but otherwiſe the petitions appear to be genuine.

Your committee have alſo thought it their duty to examine a bundle of papers which had been ſent to the Houſe, againſt paſſing a law which was already enacted, and therefore it was not read at the table, and they find ſaid bundle to contain a petition againſt paſſing the law for ſuperſeding the truſtees who were empowered to erect a Court-houſe and Gaol in *Weſtmoreland* county, and for compelling them to ſettle their accounts; and they find many diſtinct leaves of paper, paſted one to another, wrote over with the names of men, ſeveral of thoſe leaves are nearly all wrote apparently by one hand, and ſeveral of them evidently appear to have been cut off from other petitions, and the whole of them ſo much ſullied, as no way to correſpond with the petition, to which they are faſtened by a ſingle pin. The petition appears newly wrote. Upon the whole, it having every mark of being ſpurious, or at leaſt ſuch a petition as the ſigners thereof never ſaw, your committee could give no weight to it in their deliberations; but, from all the moſt authentic information your committee are poſſeſſed of, they are convinced that the ſeat of juſtice hath been very improperly removed to *Greenſburgh*, not only contrary to the expectations and wiſhes of the generality of the people, but to a place neither central nor conveniently ſeated.

Your committee find that the courts of juſtice having been long held at the place called *Hanna*'s-*town*, and that the inhabitants thereof contributed greatly to the preſervation of the records and protection of the courts of juſtice through the late war, and that it is a more central and convenient ſituation than *Greenſburgh*, though your committee are of opinion that a more north-eaſterly ſituation would be ſtill more central for what ought to continue to be *Weſtmoreland* county, but as the great weſtern road which muſt always be kept up goes through that place, and as the north end of the county is more thinly ſettled, and as the land offered for the benefit of the county by the proprietors of *Hanna*'s-*town* is valuable, and ſo many roads being opened to that place already, we think it would probably give more ſatisfaction to a greater number of the inhabitants of that county than any other place.

In this ſentiment your committee is ſupported by comparing the petitions preſented to this and former Houſes, as well as other information; and as there is no proſpect that the people will be contented with the preſent ſituation, but rather that the continuing the courts at *Greenſburgh* will promote an improper and premature diviſion of that county at a future day, by theſe conſiderations your committee are induced to offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for erecting a Court-houſe and Gaol at the place called *Hanna*'s-*town*, ſufficient to accommodate the public ſervice of that county, and for reſtoring the courts of juſtice to that place.

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Clymer*, Mr. *Roſs*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Powell*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An*
"*Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to*
"*lend*

" *lend money upon mortgage and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Upper Preſbyterian congregation of* Marſh-creek, *in the county of* York," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut " *claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* " *other purpoſes therein mentioned,* which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to confirm and amend the charter of incorporation of the United* Swe- " diſh *Lutheran churches of* Wicacoa, Kingſeſſing *and* Upper-Merion, *called* Gloria Dei, *St.* Thomas'*s and* Chriſt-church," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to enable* *to build a new court-houſe* " *and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the court-houſe and* " *priſon in the town of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumberland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate and endow an Academy or Public* " *School in the town of* Waſhington," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Academy of the Proteſtant* " *Epiſcopal church in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for eſtabliſhing a court of admiralty ſeſſions for* " *the trial of crimes and offences, other than piracies and felonies committed on* " *the high ſeas, or within admiralty juriſdiction,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 21, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 481 inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery* were read, praying that the poor of the ſaid county may be ſupported by the county at large.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Griffith Evans,* in behalf of himſelf and others, ſurveyors of the donation lands, was read, ſetting forth, that the bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the reſidue of the donation lands, reſerving a* " *part*

“ *part thereof for a town on lake* Erie, *to the uſe of the commonwealth*,” as publiſhed for conſideration, repeals that part of the act directing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, which ſecures to the deputy ſurveyors the fees for ſuch lots as may remain unapplied for at the expiration of the time therein limited ; and praying that the ſaid repealing clauſe may be amended, conformably to the exiſting law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*, in the words following, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the reſolution directing a bill to be brought in, for removing the ſeat of government to the town of *Harriſburg*, be re-conſidered, in order that the committee may be diſcharged.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Richard Thomas*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *George Roſs*,
23 *James Clemſon*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *Henry Tyſon*,
26 *Adam Eichelberger*,
27 *Philip Kreemer*,
28 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
29 *Robert Brown*,
30 *Peter Burkhalter*,
31 *Joſeph Powell*,
32 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
33 *Charles Moore*,
34 *Samuel Wheeler*,
35 *Jacob Reiff.*

NAYS.

1 *David M‘Conaughy*,
2 *David M‘Clellan*,
3 *Joſeph Lilley*,
4 *Robert Whitehill*,
5 *Thomas Beale*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *David Mitchell*,
8 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
9 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
10 *David Davis*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *John Canon*,
13 *Frederick Antes*,
14 *Samuel Dale*,
15 *William Findley*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John M‘Dowell*,
19 *John Flenniken*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Theophilus Philips*,
22 *John Gilchreeſt*,
23 *Abraham Smith*,
24 *James M‘Calmont*,
25 *Robert Clark*,
26 *Jacob Miley*,
27 *John Carſon.*

So it was carried in the affirmative, and the committee accordingly diſcharged.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for opening a road between the river* Suſquehanna, *at the falls of* Neſco- "peck, *and the* Lehigh, *at or near the* Union *ſaw-mill,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to declare and regulate eſcheats,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to grant to* Oliver Evans, *for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive* "*right of making and ſelling within this commonwealth the machines herein de-* "*ſcribed,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enlarge the lots in the State-Houſe ſquare, appropriated for building* "*thereon reſpectively county and city Court-houſes,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for erect- "ing part of the county of *Lancaſter* into a ſeparate county," was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſeveral paragraphs?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain* "*perſons, called* Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them claimed within the* "*county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 22, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *March* 17th, on the letter and petition of the Honorable *John Penn*, junior, *John Penn* and *Richard Penn*, Eſquires, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, to whom was referred the letter from the Honorable *William Maclay*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 135 of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Cumru*, in the county of *Berks*, read *February* 28th laſt, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Whelen*, Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *G. Heiſter*, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of the town of *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, read *February* 27th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *Whitehill*, to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for opening a road between the river* Suſquehanna, *at the falls of* Neſcopeck, *and the* Lehigh, *at or near the* Union *ſaw-mill,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the* German *Lutheran Congregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumberland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Upper Preſbyterian Congregation of* Marſh-creek, *in the county of* York," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting unto* George Wall, *junior, the ſole and excluſive privilege of making and vending a mathematical inſtrument by him invented, for the term of twenty-one years,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church at* York-town," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to confirm and amend the charter of incorporation of the United* Swediſh *Lutheran churches of* Wiccacoa, Kingſeſſing *and* Upper Merion, *called* Gloria Dei, *St.* James'*s and* Chriſt-Church," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enlarge the lots in the State-houſe ſquare, appropriated for building thereon reſpectively county and city Court-houſes,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant to* Oliver Evans, *for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive right of making and ſelling within this commonwealth the machines herein deſcribed,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Morris,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,*

Ordered, That the order of the day for electing a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, in the room of the Honorable *Charles Pettit,* Eſquire, whoſe Delegation expires on the 7th of *April* next, be poſtponed until *Saturday* next, and that the nomination may take place until that day.

It was moved by Mr. *Whitehill,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year* " 1781, *and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy* " *collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands which were located be-* " *fore the declaration of independence,*" and that it be the order for that day.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *Smith,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Valentine Upp,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *James Clemſon,*
4 *Robert Whitehill,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Philip Kreemer,*
9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
12 *Robert Brown,*
13 *Peter Burkhalter,*
14 *John Piper,*
15 *Joſeph Powell,*

YEAS.

16 *Frederick Antes,*
17 *Samuel Dale,*
18 *William Findley,*
19 *James Barr,*
20 *Alexander Wright,*
21 *John M‘Dowell,*
22 *John Flenniken,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Theophilus Philips,*
25 *John Gilchreeſt,*
26 *Abraham Smith,*
27 *James M‘Calmont,*
28 *Robert Clark,*
29 *Jacob Miley.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Samuel Foulke,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Richard Willing,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *Samuel Evans,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Alexander Lowrey,*

NAYS.

15 *Adam Hubley,*
16 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
17 *Joſeph Work,*
18 *David M‘Conaughy,*
19 *Michael Schmyſer,*
20 *David M‘Clellan,*
21 *Joſeph Lilley,*
22 *Henry Tyſon,*
23 *Adam Eichelberger,*
24 *Thomas Beale,*
25 *Charles Moore,*
26 *Samuel Wheeler,*
27 *Jacob Reiff,*
28 *John Carſon.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill entituled “ *An Act to divide* Waſhington *county into election diſtricts,*” was read the third time, whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *Brackenridge* ſeconded by Mr. *Carpenter,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement ?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Dowell* and Mr. *Wright,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Valentine Upp,*
10 *James Moore,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *Samuel Evans,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Townſend Whelen,*
16 *Alexander Lowrey,*
17 *Adam Hubley,*
18 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *George Roſs,*
21 *James Clemſon,*
22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *David M‘Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Henry Tyſon,*
26 *Adam Eichelberger,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *John Cannon,*
29 *Hugh H. Brackenridg*
30 *Charles Moore,*
31 *Samuel Wheeler,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Samuel Foulke,*
2 *David M‘Conaughy,*
3 *Robert Whitehill,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *David Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
8 *Philip Kreemer,*
9 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
10 *David Davis,*
11 *Robert Brown,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *Joſeph Powell,*
14 *Frederick Antes,*
15 *Samuel Dale,*
16 *William Findley,*
17 *James Barr,*
18 *Alexander Wright,*
29 *John M‘Dowell,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *James Alliſon,*
22 *Theophilus Philips,*
23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *Abraham Smith,*
25 *James M‘Calmont,*
26 *Robert Clark,*
27 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch, *the* “ *ſole right and advantages of making and employing the ſteam boat by him lately* “ *invented, for a limited time,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for incorporating the Preſbyterian congrega-*

" *tion of* New-London, *in the county of* Cheſter," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to* " *incorporate the Preſbyterian church, in the townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the* " *county of* Dauphin," poſtponed *March* 5th, and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of* " Tinnicum *townſhip, in the county of* Bucks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *March* 23, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Joſeph Powell*, Eſquire, a repreſentative for the county of *Bedford*, was read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of his election he appeared at the laſt ſeſſion, in order to take his ſeat as a member of this Houſe, but was not admitted, for want of the original papers touching ſaid election, until the preſent ſeſſion, and praying he may be allowed adequate compenſation for his time and expences during ſuch attendance; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee of accounts, to report thereon.

A petition from the inhabitants of the diſtrict of the townſhips of *Oxford*, *Lower Dublin*, *Byberry*, and the lower parts of the manor of *Moreland*, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at *Frankford*, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Feather*, of the county of *Berks*, remonſtrating againſt the prayer of the petition from 135 inhabitants of the townſhip of *Cumru*, in the county of *Berks* aforeſaid, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petition above mentioned.

A petition from *Nicholas Reib*, late of the corps of artificers in the ſervice of the United States, was read, ſtating his claim to pay, bounty, &c. as well as for pay due to his deceaſed ſon, who was taken priſoner, and died in captivity; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year* 1781, *and for* " *redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the* " *arrearages due for unpatented lands which were located before the declaration of* " *independence*," was read the third time, and upon the queſtion to read the ſame by paragraphs,

It was moved by Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill until the next ſeſſion of this Houſe.

The Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Kennedy*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *Iſaac Gray*,
7 *William Robinſon*, jun.
8 *John Salter*,
9 *George Logan*,
10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
12 *John Chapman*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Thomas*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,
19 *Adam Hubley*,
20 *David M'Conaughy*,
21 *David M'Clellan*,
22 *Joſeph Lilley*,
23 *Henry Tyſon*,
33 *Adam Eichelberger*,
25 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
26 *Charles Moore*,
27 *Samuel Wheeler*,
28 *Jacob Reiff*.

NAYS.

1 *Valentine Upp*,
2 *James Moore*,
3 *Joſeph Work*,
4 *George Roſs*,
5 *Michael Schmyſer*,
6 *Robert Whitehill*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Thomas Kennedy*,
9 *David Mitchell*,
10 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
11 *Philip Kreemer*,
12 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
13 *David Davis*,
14 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
15 *Robert Brown*,
16 *Peter Burkhalter*,
17 *John Piper*,
18 *John Canon*,
19 *Joſeph Powell*,
20 *Frederick Antes*,
21 *Samuel Dale*,
22 *William Findley*,
23 *James Barr*,
24 *Alexander Wright*,
25 *John M'Dowell*,
26 *John Flenniken*,
27 *James Alliſon*,
28 *Theophilus Philips*,
29 *John Gilchreeſt*,
30 *Abraham Smith*,
31 *James M'Calmont*,
32 *Robert Clark*,
33 *Jacob Miley*,
34 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the negative.

Upon motion,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *March* 24, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhip of *Shippenſburg*, was read, ſtating that doubts have and ſtill do exiſt, whether they are included within the boundaries preſcribed in the act, paſſed the ninth day of *September*, 1784, entituled "*An Act for erecting the ſouthweſtern part of the county* "*of* Cumberland *into a new county*;" therefore praying this Houſe to grant them relief in the premiſes, by an explanation of the aforeſaid act.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 130 inhabitants of the county of *York* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of divers inhabitants of the ſaid county, read *March* 20th.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Comptroller-General of this ſtate was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Delegate to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, in the room of the Honorable *Charles Pettit*, Eſquire, whoſe delegation expires on the ſeventh day of *April* next, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *John Armſtrong*, junior, Eſquire, was duly elected.

Petitions from 96 inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* were read, ſtating the many diſadvantages the citizens of this ſtate are ſubjected to by reaſon of the defects in the act, entituled "*An Act for regulating and eſtabliſhing fees*," paſſed the twenty-ſecond day of *Auguſt*, 1752, and praying this Houſe to regulate the future fees of office; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *D. Clymer*, Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 20th, on the letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petition of the inhabitants of *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for building a court-houſe and priſon at* Hanna's-town, *in the county of* "Weſtmoreland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the land-office,* "*the judge of admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein contained,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand* "*ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt* "*of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands* "*which were located before the declaration of independence,*" and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That every perſon entitled to demand a patent for land in this ſtate, according to the direction of the ſaid recited act, on paying one fourth part of the amount of the purchaſe money, or the arrearages now due, with the intereſt thereon in lawful money of this ſtate, or in the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the aforeſaid act, paſſed the ſeventh day of *April*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, together with the whole of the office fees in current lawful money, ſhall, at his option, pay the reſidue of ſuch purchaſe money and intereſt in lawful money, or the bills of credit aforeſaid, or in the certificates of debts due from this ſtate, and now by law entitled to draw intereſt from the treaſury thereof, commonly called funded certificates, on which certificates the intereſt

tereſt ſhall be computed and allowed till the time of ſuch payment: Provided nevertheleſs, that ſuch payment or payments be made and compleated on or before the tenth day of *April*, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight.

It was moved by Mr. *Morris*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

To amend the clauſe, by annexing the following proviſo after the words "*eighty-eight*," *viz.*

And provided alſo, that ſuch certificates be for ſupplies furniſhed, money lent, or ſervices rendered to this commonwealth, or to the United States of *America*, by the perſon who ſhall tender the ſame, or on whoſe behalf the ſame may be tendered, or otherwiſe for ſervices rendered, ſupplies furniſhed, or money lent as aforeſaid, by any perſon, and held under him by heirſhip, teſtamentary bequeſt, executorſhip or adminiſtratorſhip, of which ſufficient evidence ſhall be given to the Comptroller-General of this ſtate, and his certificate thereof ſhall be produced to the officers of the land-office by the perſon applying for or demanding a patent as aforeſaid.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the propoſed amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays being called thereon by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Kennedy*, were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Robert Morris*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
5 *Iſaac Gray*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *Richard Willing*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,

YEAS.

13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *George Roſs*,
19 *David M'Conaughy*,
20 *Michael Schmyſer*,
21 *Joſeph Lilley*,
22 *Charles Moore*,
23 *Samuel Wheeler*,
24 *Jacob Reiff*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *James Moore*,
3 *Joſeph Work*,
4 *David M'Clellan*,
5 *Henry Tyſon*,
6 *Adam Eichelberger*,
7 *Robert Whitehill*,
8 *Thomas Beale*,
9 *Thomas Kennedy*,
10 *David Mitchell*,
11 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
12 *Philip Kreemer*,
13 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
14 *David Davis*,
15 *Peter Trexler*, jun.

NAYS.

16 *Robert Brown*,
17 *Peter Burkhalter*,
18 *John Piper*,
19 *John Canon*,
20 *Joſeph Powell*,
21 *Frederick Antes*,
22 *Samuel Dale*,
23 *William Findley*,
24 *James Barr*,
25 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
26 *Alexander Wright*,
27 *John M'Dowell*,
28 *John Flenniken*,
29 *James Alliſon*,
30 *Theophilus Philips*,

NAYS.

31 *John Gilchreeſt*,
32 *Abraham Smith*,
33 *James M'Calmont*,
34 *Robert Clark*,
35 *Jacob Miley*,
36 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the negative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being* “ *enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Morris* and Mr. *G. Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Moore*,
2 *Joſeph Work*,
3 *George Roſs*,
4 *Michael Schmyſer*,
5 *David M'Clellan*,
6 *Joſeph Lilley*,
7 *Henry Tyſon*,
8 *Adam Eichelberger*,
9 *Robert Whitehill*,
10 *Thomas Beale*,
11 *Thomas Kennedy*,
12 *David Mitchell*,
13 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
14 *Philip Kreemer*,
15 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
16 *David Davis*,
17 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
18 *Robert Brown*,
19 *Peter Burkhalter*,
20 *John Piper*,
21 *John Canon*,
22 *Joſeph Powell*,
23 *Frederick Antes*,
24 *Samuel Dale*,
25 *William Findley*,
26 *James Barr*,
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
28 *Alexander Wright*,
29 *John M'Dowell*,
30 *John Flenniken*,
31 *James Alliſon*,
32 *Theophilus Philips*,
33 *John Gilchreeſt*,
34 *Abraham Smith*,
35 *James M'Calmont*,
36 *Robert Clark*,
37 *Jacob Miley*,
38 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Robert Morris*,
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
4 *George Clymer*,
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *Richard Willing*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *David M'Conaughy*,
19 *Charles Moore*,
20 *Samuel Wheeler*,
21 *Jacob Reiff*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, March 26, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Richmond Allen* was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial rder, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th ſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from *Hugh Hampſon* was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial rder, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Moſes M'Clean,* read *March* 6th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans,* M. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Findley,* o report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Fayette,* read *ecember* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Smith,* Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Gilchreeſt,* o report thereon.

The petition of *Paul Hauſman,* read *March* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Roſs* and Mr. *Kennedy,* to port thereon.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Morris,* Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *G. Clymer,* Ir. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *Wheeler* be a committee, to ceive ſuch propoſitions as *Thomas Paine* may have to offer, for carrying into ecution his plan for erecting bridges within this commonwealth, and to port the ſame to this Houſe at their next ſeſſion.

The report of the committee, read *November* 15th laſt, on the petition of *illiam Alliſon* and others, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report of the committee, read *March* 24th, on the petition of the habitants of *Newtown,* in the county of *Bucks,* was read the ſecond time: hereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to e prayer of their petition.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee, on e memorial intended to have been preſented by the late *Samuel J. Atlee,* ſquire, and in part adopted the ſame: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, o bring in a bill for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and liſting men, required from the ſeveral companies of militia by an act, entuled "*An Act for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual defence of this ſtate,*" and for compelling ſuch as have received onies for that purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame.

The report of the committee, read *March* 22d, on the letter and memorial f the Honorable *John Penn,* junior, *John Penn* and *Richard Penn,* Eſquires, as read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee upon the letter of *John Penn,* junior, *John Penn* and *Richrd Penn,* report,——

That the letter to them committed refers to a memorial preſented to a former Aſſembly, praying for a reviſion of the caſe of the late Proprietaries.

The committee, however, do not conceive that it was the intention of the Ioufe to enter into a re-conſideration of that ſubject, and have therefore confined their enquiry to the other objects of the petitioners, which they find to be the payment of the monies granted by the legiſlature of this ſtate, and a compenſation for the time the payment has been delayed.

The committee find, that, by a law paſſed on the 27th *November*, 1779, it was provided, that the ſum of £ 130,000 ſterling ſhould be paid to the late Proprietaries, or their legal repreſentatives:

That by an act paſſed on the 1ſt day of *April*, 1784, the barracks in the *Northern-Liberties* were directed to be ſold, and the monies ariſing therefrom to be paid into the ſtate treaſury, towards the payment of £ 15,000 ſterling, part of the aforeſaid ſum of £ 130,000 that by one other act, paſſed on the 9th day of *February*, 1785, it is directed, that the above named payment of £ 15,000 ſterling be immediately made, and that ſo much of the monies received or become due for impoſt, as, with the money ariſing from the ſale of the barracks, would be ſufficient, ſhould be applied for that purpoſe; the payment to be made in gold or ſilver, agreeable to the value aſcertained in the act, and the intereſt on the ſaid firſt inſtallment to ceaſe within after notice given by the Preſident and Council.

By the act paſſed on the 15th day of *March*, 1785, it is provided, that as the ſecond and ſubſequent annual payments ſhall become due, they ſhall be paid in gold or ſilver, upon the warrant of the Preſident in Council, and the taxes and impoſt are charged with the payment thereof.

By a ſtatement handed to the committee by the petitioners, that Council iſſued their warrants to the petitioners on the 18th day of *January*, 1786, for the ſum of £ 15,592 14 ſterling, and that they have received, on account of the ſaid warrants, £ 11,868 15 currency, and that there remains due thereon £ 14,777 15 6; and that there are now due two other inſtallments, amounting, at the rate of exchange affixed by law, to £ 50,000, together £ 64,777 15 6.

From this ſtate of facts the committee infer, that it was the deſign of the legiſlature to pay to the petitioners £ 25,000 currency in the year 1785, and the like ſum in every ſucceſſive year, till the whole ſum of £ 130,000 ſterling ſhall be finally diſcharged; and that the direction to withhold the intereſt was made, upon a ſuppoſition that the monies ſo directed ſhould be punctually paid; and therefore offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the ſtate treaſurer be, and he is hereby directed to pay to *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, the balance due upon their reſpective warrants, out of the firſt monies which ſhall be received into the public treaſury.

Reſolved, That the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council iſſue their warrants in favor of the late Proprietaries, or their legal repreſentatives, for the two annual inſtallments directed by the acts of Aſſembly in that caſe made and provided.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the treaſurer of this ſtate to pay to the late Proprietaries, or their legal repreſentatives, intereſt at the rate of ſix per cent. per annum, upon the balance due to them on the warrants iſſued in their favor, and upon the annual inſtallments directed to be paid to them, which intereſt ſhall commence on the day of in each year.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Calmont* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The report of the committee on the petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Bedford* and *Franklin*, read *March* 19th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That a ſpecial committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of erecting the townſhips of *Antrim* and *Waſhington* into a diſtrict, to hold their annual elections at the town of *Greencaſtle*; and to erect the townſhips of *Peters* and *Montgomery* into a diſtrict, to hold their annual elections at the town of *Mercerſburgh*; and to change the place for holding the annual elections in the ſixth diſtrict of *Bedford* county, from the houſe of *Lazarus Lowrey*, in *Frankſtown* townſhip, to the houſe of *David Lowrey*, in *Tyrone* townſhip.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Antes*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Smith* and Mr. *M'Calmont* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to empower certain members of the corporation of the rector, church-wardens and veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal churches of* Chriſt-church *and St.* Peter*'s church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *to ſell a certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties," which was read the firſt time, and Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for building a court-houſe and priſon at* Hanna*'s town, in the county of* Weſtmoreland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the land-office, the judge of the admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the navigable waters of the* Frankſtown *branch of the river* Juniata *and the river* Conemough," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting* two hundred pounds *of the unappropriated monies of this commonwealth, for mending and repairing the road from* Hamburg, *on* Schuylkill, *to the* Northumberland *county line, by* Conrad Minick*'s ſaw-mill*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enlarge the lots in the State-Houſe ſquare, appropriated for building thereon reſpectively county and city Court-houſes*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the Academy of the Proteſtant* "*Epiſcopal church in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant to* Oliver Evans, *for a term of years,* "*the ſole and excluſive right of making and ſelling within this commonwealth the* "*machines herein deſcribed,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, March 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Patrick Duffy,* in behalf of *Michael Ryan,* referring to the petition of the ſaid *Ryan,* read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 20th, 1784, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice,* and others.

A petition from 66 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* was read, ſtating their diſtreſſed ſituation, occaſioned by the inundations of the river *Suſquehanna,* and praying a ſhort period of years may be allowed them for payment of the taxes now due.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial and petition from *William Moore,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, ſetting forth, that at the commencement of the late war he was indebted to divers *Britiſh* merchants for goods and merchandize, part whereof were ſold at a credit, and the reſidue diſpoſed of for continental currency; that as well the monies received in payment of thoſe outſtanding debts, as thoſe received for merchandize ſold during the war, were by him placed in the public funds, in order to ſecure to his creditors a full payment of their juſt demands, as alſo to aid the United States in their exertions againſt the enemy; and ſtating that ſuits are now commenced againſt him for payment of thoſe debts; therefore praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration, and grant him relief therein.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Paul Hauſman,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *February* 28th laſt, on the petition of *Thomas Hutchins,* Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to make more effectual proviſion for the payment of* One hundred and thir- "ty thouſand pounds *ſterling, granted to the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania, "*by an act, entituled* "An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late Proprietaries "of *Pennſylvania* in this commonwealth," *and for allowing intereſt on the ſe-* "*veral inſtallments thereof, from the times they have fallen and ſhall fall due,* "*until actual payment thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the counties of* Franklin and Fayette *into election diſtricts, and to alter the place for holding the general elections in the ſixth diſtrict, in the county of* Bedford," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* Newtown *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time: And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Sect. 3. And whereas it will be neceſſary to inſtitute a ſummary mode of aſcertaining and eſtabliſhing the right of each claimant, Be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the Supreme Executive Council ſhall appoint three prudent and judicious perſons to be commiſſioners, to repair to the county of *Luzerne*, within eight months next after the paſſing of this act, and at ſuch place within the ſame county, and at ſuch time as they the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall appoint, to meet together, for the purpoſe of receiving and examining the claims of all perſons to the lots intended by this act to be confirmed. And the ſaid commiſſioners are hereby empowered to adjourn their meeting from time to time, and to ſuch places within the ſaid county, as they ſhall judge beſt for the proper and ſpeedy execution of their commiſſion. And that all perſons intereſted in the ſaid lots may be duly notified to make and ſupport their claims thereto, within the time preſcribed by this act, the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall cauſe it to be publiſhed in one or more of the newſpapers printed in *Pennſylvania* and *Connecticut*, with an advertiſement ſubjoined, expreſſing the time and place propoſed for their firſt meeting; and copies of this act and of the ſaid advertiſement ſhall alſo be poſted up at ſundry places within the ſaid county, for the information of the inhabitants. And the examination of the ſaid claims ſhall be by witneſſes, on their oaths or affirmations (which the ſaid commiſſioners are ſeverally empowered to adminiſter) and ſuch other evidence as ſhall be produced to the ſaid commiſſioners, or which they can obtain. And of ſuch claims as ſhall be ſupported by evidence ſatisfactory to the ſaid commiſſioners, or any two of them, there ſhall be made a fair entry, in which the lots ſo claimed ſhall be deſcribed, and in ſuch manner that the ſame may be clearly known and aſcertained. Provided, that where two or more claims of *Connecticut* claimants, to the ſame lot, ſhall be preſented, and it ſhall appear to the ſaid commiſſioners, by ſatisfactory evidence, that the ſame lot ought to be confirmed, agreeably to the meaning of this act, they ſhall make a fair entry thereof as aforeſaid; and if the ſeveral claimants agree to ſubmit their claims to the determination of the ſaid commiſſioners, they ſhall proceed to hear and determine the ſame accordingly; but if they do not thus agree, either of the claimants may proſecute his claim in the proper court of law, as in ordinary caſes of conteſted titles.

It was moved by Mr. *G. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

To ſtrike out the words "*the Supreme Executive Council ſhall appoint three prudent and judicious perſons to be commiſſioners, to*" and in lieu thereof to inſert, "   *be, and they are hereby appointed commiſſioners, for the purpoſes herein after expreſſed and*

" *declared; and that in caſe of the death, abſence or refuſal to ſerve, of any or*
" *all of the ſaid commiſſioners, the Supreme Executive Council are hereby au-*
" *thoriſed and required to ſupply the vacancy or vacancies occaſioned thereby, by*
" *other new appointment or appointments.*"

" *Sect.* 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid*
" *commiſſioners ſhall*"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the amendment propoſed?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Whitehill*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *John Salter,*
9 *George Logan,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
12 *John Chapman,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Robert Ralſton,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Richard Thomas,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Adam Hubley,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *George Roſs,*
24 *David M'Conaughy,*
25 *Michael Schmyſer,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Joſeph Lilley,*
28 *Henry Tyſon,*
29 *Adam Eichelberger,*
30 *Daniel Clymer,*
31 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
32 *John Canon,*
33 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
34 *Charles Moore,*
35 *Samuel Wheeler,*
36 *Jacob Reiff.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Whitehill,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *David Mitchell,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *David Davis,*
7 *Robert Brown,*
8 *Peter Burkhalter,*
9 *John Piper,*
10 *Joſeph Powell,*
11 *Frederick Antes,*
12 *Samuel Dale,*
13 *William Findley,*
14 *James Barr,*
15 *Alexander Wright,*
16 *John M'Dowell,*
17 *John Flenniken,*
18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Theophilus Philips,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *Abraham Smith,*
22 *Robert Clark,*
23 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

It was then, on motion, *Ordered,* That the further conſideration of the ſaid clauſe, as amended, be poſtponed, and that to-morrow be aſſigned to elect commiſſioners for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing paragraph, and that the nomination continue until that day.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *David Reddick*, Eſquire, was read, ſetting forth, that by the act for opening the land-office, paſſed the firſt day of *April*, 1784, the fees of the Deputy-Surveyors are reduced to nearly one half of what they were previous to the paſſing of the ſaid act, without taking off the fees by them payable to the Surveyor-General, and requeſting this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member, in his place, read a bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act,* " *entituled* " An Act appointing Deputies to the Convention intended to be " held in the city of *Philadelphia*, for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution," and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report of the committee on the petition of *William Alliſon* and others, poſtponed yeſterday, and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom the petition of *William Alliſon* and others was referred, report——

That the petitioners ſupplied a detachment of continental forces (being of the line of *Maſſachuſetts)* with ſundry articles of cloathing, expecting payment either in money, or in the notes of the late Superintendant of Finance, in which expectation they were diſappointed, and received payment in the certificates of the Paymaſter-General. Theſe certificates they afterwards had cancelled at the treaſury of the United States, and obtained, in lieu thereof, other certificates in their favor, ſigned by the Regiſter-General.

Theſe certificates are excluded from being received on loan to the ſtate by the letter of the funding law, which act requires that each certificate be accompanied by an atteſtation from the proper officer of the fœderal treaſury, that the conſideration on which ſuch certificate iſſued was ſuch debt as would have entitled the bearer to have drawn intereſt by virtue of this act. The act, however, admits loan-office certificates which have been iſſued in favor of others than citizens, if paid to citizens for ſupplies for the army of the United States: But was this principle extended to all claſſes of certificates, it would not ſtill cover the caſe of the petitioners, who ſupplied individuals of the army, on the credit of the pay due to them reſpectively.

Your committee, therefore, conſidering the large amount of the fœderal debt already received by the ſtate, and the uncertainy of the limits of the aſſumption, are doubtful of the propriety of enlarging the baſis of the funding plan, and thereupon ſubmit to the conſideration of the Houſe the following reſolution:

That the aforeſaid certificates cannot be received by this ſtate.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Paul Hauſman,* read this forenoon, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the petitioner have leave to bring in a bill, agreeably to the prayer of his petition.

The report of the committee on the petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox,* read *November* 11th laſt, was read the ſecond time:

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the following reſolution,* viz.
" *Reſolved,* That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, to enable the
" proper officers to accept ſo many warrants for 300 acres each, agreeably to
" the prayer of their petition; provided, that the ſame land is not ſurveyed
" upon warrants, agreeably to the law for regulating the ſale of lands in the
" laſt purchaſe made of the *Indians*:"

It was carried in the negative.

On motion, *Ordered,* That *David Jones* and *William Rogers* have leave to withdraw their petition, referred, *February* 23d, to the committee apointed to report on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice,* and others, and that the committee be diſcharged from making report on ſaid petition.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Daniel Leet,* and others, read *March* 20th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to make proviſion for defraying the expences of the Deputy-Surveyors appointed for ſurveying the donation lands, and to aſcertain ſome other mode of ſecuring their fees than is now provided by law.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to make more effectual proviſion for the payment of* one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds *ſterling, granted to the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania, *by an act, entituled* " An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late Proprietaries of *Pennſylvania* in this commonwealth," *and for allowing intereſt on the ſeveral inſtallments thereof from the times they have fallen and ſhall fall due, until actual payment thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion, and by ſpecial order, The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act appointing Deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of *Philadelphia,* for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter the teſt of allegiance to this commonwealth, required by an act paſſed the fourth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, entituled* " An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, March 28, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Humphrey Fullerton,* in behalf of himſelf and orphans under his care, was read, ſetting forth, that in the years 1773 and 1774 he obtained eight warrants for himſelf and three for his brothers, from the land-office of the late Proprietaries, paid the full conſideration money therefor, and procured ſurveys to be made in purſuance thereof on the head waters of *Crooked* creek and *Sugar* creek, then ſuppoſed to be within the old purchaſe; that upon running the line from the weſt branch of *Suſquehanna* to the *Kittanning*, it was found that thoſe lands were not within the bounds of the ſaid purchaſe; and praying the ſame tracts of land may be confirmed unto them, or ſuch other relief granted them as this Houſe may deem juſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Joſeph Knight*, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read in a former Houſe, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Andrew Fox* and others, late ſoldiers in the independent troop of light dragoons, commanded by Captain *Bartholomew Van Heer*, was read, praying that they may be allowed a part of the donation lands.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts, to whom was referred, *March* 23d, the petition of *Joſeph Powell*, Eſquire, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “*An Act for the relief of* Paul Hauſman, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of* Lancaſter,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to empower certain members of the corporation of the rector, church-wardens and veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal churches of* Chriſt-church *and St.* Peter*'s church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *to ſell a certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to divide the counties of* Franklin *and* Fayette *into election diſtricts, to alter the place for holding the general election in the ſixth diſtrict in the county of* Bedford, *and for making the townſhips of* Greenwood *and* Rye, *in the county of* Cumberland, *a ſixth election diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding general elections,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to declare and regulate Eſcheats,*” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands, which were located before the declaration of independence;*” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “*A Supplement to the act, entituled* “An Act appointing Deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of *Philadelphia,* "for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act for the "further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by "receiving on loan certain debts of the United States of *America*, and for "funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans," *and* "*the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate every ſix months,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Paul Hauſman, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of* Lancaſter," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church in the townſhip of* Londonderry, *in the county of* Dauphin.

An ACT *for eſtabliſhing a court of admiralty ſeſſions for the trial of crimes and offences, other than piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, or within admiralty juriſdiction.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act for the further relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on loan certain debts of the United States of *America*, and for funding the ſame, and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans," *and the intereſt of certain debts of this ſtate, every ſix months.*

An ACT *for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of* New-London, *in the county of* Cheſter.

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act for re-eſtabliſhing the charter of the ſecond Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

An ACT *to incorporate the Baptiſt church and congregation in* Lower-Dublin *townſhip, in the county of* Philadelphia, *in the ſtate of* Pennſylvania.

An ACT *for ſecuring the city of* Philadelphia, *and the neighbourhood thereof, from damage by gun-powder.*

An ACT *to incorporate the* Union *Library Company of* Hatborough, *in the manor of* Moreland, *and county of* Montgomery.

An ACT *for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands, which were located before the declaration of independence.*

An ACT *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in* Tinicum *townſhip, in the county of* Bucks.

An ACT *for granting and ſecuring to* John Fitch *the ſole right and advantages of making and employing the ſteam-boat by him lately invented, for a limited time.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* "An Act appointing deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of *Philadelphia*, for the purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution.

An ACT *to make more effectual proviſion for the payment of* one hundred and thirty thouſand pounds *ſterling, granted to the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *by an act, entituled* "An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late Proprietaries of *Pennſylvania* in this commonwealth," *and for allowing intereſt on the ſeveral inſtallments thereof from the times they have fallen and ſhall fall due, until actual payment thereof.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, March 29, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Mary Byron*, widow of *Benjamin Byron*, was read, ſtating that her late father, *Peter Lykins*, was fraudulently diſpoſſeſſed of a tract of land in *Exeter* townſhip, *Berks* county, and praying the poſſeſſion thereof may be reſtored to her.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, read *March* 21ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Montgomery*, to report thereon.

The report of the committee of accounts, on the letter from the Honorable *William Maclay*, Eſq; read *March* 22d, was read the ſecond time; whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *William Maclay*, Eſq; for *fourteen pounds and twelve ſhillings.*

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report,——

That there is due to *Thomas Bradford, per* account, for printing, between the 13th of *November* and the 14th of *February* laſt, *one hundred thirteen pounds one ſhilling and three-pence.*

To *Michael Billmeyer*, for printing twenty-eight and one half ſheets of the Minutes of the firſt ſeſſion of the preſent Aſſembly, *eighty-five pounds and ten ſhillings*; and twenty-five and one half columns of bills publiſhed for conſideration, *twenty-one pounds and fifteen ſhillings*; amounting, together, to *one hundred and ſeven pounds and five ſhillings.*

And that application has been made by *Hall* and *Sellers*, for ſome payment on account.

They therefore offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for *one hundred and thirteen pounds one ſhilling and three-pence*, in full of his account for publiſhing bills to the 14th of *February* laſt: in favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, for *one hundred and ſeven pounds and five ſhillings.*

lings, in full of his account for printing the *German* Minutes of the firſt ſeſſion of the Eleventh General Aſſembly, and for publiſhing bills for conſideration; in favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, on account, for *ſeventy-five pounds*.

The report of the committee, read *March* 8th, on the memorial of the miniſter, elders, truſtees and other members of the *Scots* Preſbyterian Church in *Philadelphia*, &c. was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the prayer thereof ought not to be granted.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *Joſeph Powell*, Eſq; was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Joſeph Powell*, Eſq; the third ſitting member for the county of *Bedford*, for the ſum of *forty-five pounds*, for ſixty days attendance at this Houſe, and for travelling to and from *Bedford* county, in proſecuting his claim to his ſeat in the Aſſembly for this ſtate for the ſaid county, on the late conteſted election for that county.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Zachary Lloyd*, Eſquire, Clerk of this Houſe, for his extra ſervices, for *ſeventy pounds*; in favor of *Jacob Shallus*, Eſquire, Aſſiſtant Clerk, for *ſeventy pounds*, for his extra ſervices; in favor of *Nicholas Weaver*, Serjeant at Arms, for *ten pounds*, for his extra ſervices; in favor of *Joſeph Fry*, Doorkeeper, for *ten pounds*, for his extra ſervices.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money* "*for raiſing and enliſting men required from the ſeveral companies of militia by* "*an act, entituled* "An Act for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more "ſpeedy and effectual defence of this ſtate," *and for compelling ſuch as have* "*received monies for that purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz*.

An ACT *for opening a road between the river* Suſquehanna, *at the falls of* Neſcopeck, *and the* Lehigh, *at or near the* Union *ſaw-mill*.

An ACT *for opening and eſtabliſhing a road, between the navigable waters of the* Frankſtown *branch of the river* Juniata *and the river* Conemaugh.

An ACT *to alter the teſt of allegiance to this commonwealth required by an act paſſed the fourth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix, entituled* "An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fidelity and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to the rights of citizenſhip."

An ACT *to grant to* Oliver Evans, *for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive right of making and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the machines herein deſcribed*.

An ACT *to incorporate and endow the academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to enlarge the lots in the State-Houſe ſquare, appropriated for building thereon reſpectively county and city court-houſes*.

An ACT *for granting* two hundred pounds *of the unappropriated monies of this commonwealth, for mending and repairing the road from* Hamburg, *on* Schuylkill, *to the* Northumberland *county line, by* Conrad Minick's *ſaw-mill*.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws which might be enacted by this Houſe, reported their having affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. A SUPPLEMENT to the act, entituled "*An Act for the more ſpeedy* "*and effectual adminiſtration of juſtice.*"

II. An ACT, containing a Supplement to the acts made for the relief of inſolvent debtors, and alſo granting relief to felons unable to make reſtitution of ſtolen goods.

III. An ACT for the eſtabliſhment of an academy, or public School, in the town of *Pittſburgh.*

IV. An ACT to exonerate the contributors to the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital from a debt due to this commonwealth, upon a loan made to them in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty.

V. An ACT for incorporating the *German* Lutheran congregation in and near the borough of *Lancaſter,* in the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.*

VI. An ACT to alter and amend an act, entituled "*An Act to prevent* "*frauds in the packing and preſerving of ſhad and herring for exportation.*"

VII. An ACT to exonerate and diſcharge *David Cloyd,* late treaſurer of ſtate taxes in and for the county of *Cheſter,* from the payment of *two hundred and ſeventy pounds nine ſhillings,* ſpecie, of which he was robbed.

VIII. An ACT to incorporate the congregation of Seventh-day *Baptiſts,* reſiding within the townſhip of *Eaſt-Nantmill,* and places adjacent, in the county of *Cheſter.*

IX. An ACT to enable the committee of the eſtate of *John Vanderen,* who is *non compos mentis,* to ſell and convey ſome parts of his real and perſonal eſtate, for the payment of ſome of his debts; to mortgage other parts of his real eſtate, to ſecure the payment of others of his debts; to leaſe for a term of years parts of his real eſtate; and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

X. An ACT for co-operating with the ſtate of *Maſſachuſetts-Bay,* agreeable to the articles of confederation, in the apprehending of the proclaimed rebels, *Daniel Shays, Luke Day, Adam Wheeler* and *Eli Parſons.*

XI. An ACT to alter and amend the act, entituled "*An Act for the* "*relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who in the courſe of the late war have* "*been wounded, or otherwiſe diſabled, in the ſervice of this ſtate, or of the* "*United States.*"

XII. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of the townſhip of *Leacock,* in the county of *Lancaſter.*

XIII. An ACT for incorporating the United Epiſcopal churches of *Trinity* church in *Oxford* townſhip, and *All Saints* church in *Lower Dublin* townſhip, in *Philadelphia* county, and St. *Thomas*'s church in *White Marſh* townſhip, in *Montgomery* county.

XIV. An ACT to incorporate and endow the *German* college and charity ſchool in the borough and county of *Lancaſter,* in this ſtate.

XV. An ACT to amend an act, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of* "*bankruptcy.*"

XVI. An ACT to direct and authoriſe the laying out of an highway through this ſtate, from the waters of the river *Potowmack* to the river *Ohio,* in order to extend and facilitate the intercourſe which is deſigned to be opened between the ſame rivers.

XVII. An ACT to amend and explain the act, entituled "*An Act to* "*encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on* "*the*

" *the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them, and for the* " *further encouragement of the navigation of the ſtate.*"

XVIII. An ACT to revive the incorporation of the ſubſcribers to the Bank of *North-America.*

XIX. An ACT for granting and ſecuring to *John Fitch* the ſole right and advantages of making and employing the ſteam-boat by him lately invented, for a limited time.

XX. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian church in the townſhip of *Londonderry*, in the county of *Dauphin.*

XXI. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation in *Tinicum* townſhip, in the county of *Bucks.*

XXII. An ACT for incorporating the Preſbyterian congregation of *New-London*, in the county of *Cheſter.*

XXIII. An ACT for ſecuring the city of *Philadelphia*, and the neighbourhood thereof, from damage by gun-powder.

XXIV. A SUPPLEMENT to an act, entituled " *An Act for re-eſtabliſhing the charter of the ſecond Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, " *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

XXV. An ACT to incorporate the *Union* Library Company of *Hatborough*, in the manor of *Moreland*, and county of *Montgomery.*

XXVI. An ACT to incorporate the Baptiſt church and congregation in *Lower Dublin* townſhip, in the county of *Philadelphia*, in the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.*

XXVII. An ACT for eſtabliſhing a court of Admiralty Seſſions for the trial of crimes and offences, other than piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, or within admiralty juriſdiction.

XXVIII. An ACT for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands which were located before the declaration of independence.

XXIX. An ACT to enlarge the lots in the State-Houſe ſquare, appropriated for building thereon reſpectively county and city court-houſes.

XXX. An ACT to grant to *Oliver Evans*, for a term of years, the ſole and excluſive right of making and ſelling, within this commonwealth, the machines herein deſcribed.

XXXI. An ACT for opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the navigable waters of the *Franks-town* branch of the river *Juniata* and the river *Conemaugh.*

XXXII. A SUPPLEMENT to the act, entituled " *An Act appointing* " *deputies to the Convention intended to be held in the city of* Philadelphia, *for the* " *purpoſe of reviſing the fœderal conſtitution.*"

XXXIII. A SUPPLEMENT to the act, entituled " *An Act for the fur-* " *ther relief of the public creditors who are citizens of this ſtate, by receiving on* " *loan certain debts of the United States of* America, *and for funding the ſame,* " *and for paying the annual intereſt of ſuch loans, and the intereſt of certain debts* " *of this ſtate, every ſix months.*"

XXXIV. An ACT to incorporate and endow the academy of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church in the city of *Philadelphia.*

XXXV. An ACT to alter the teſt of allegiance to this commonwealth required by an act paſſed the fourth day of *March*, one thouſand ſeven hundred and nd eighty-ſix, entituled "*An Act for ſecuring to this commonwealth the fide- ty and allegiance of the inhabitants thereof, and for admitting certain perſons to he rights of citizenſhip.*

XXXVI. An ACT for the granting *two hundred pounds* of the unappropria- ed monies of this commonwealth for mending and repairing the road from *amburgh*, on *Schuylkill*, to the *Northumberland* county line, by *Conrad Mi- ick*'s ſaw-mill.

XXXVII. An ACT to make more effectual proviſion for the payment of *ne hundred and thirty thouſand pounds* ſterling, granted to the late Proprietaries f *Pennſylvania* by an Act, entituled "*An Act for veſting the eſtates of the te Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in this commonwealth, and for allowing intereſt n the ſeveral inſtallments thereof from the times they have fallen and ſhall fall ue, until actual payment thereof.*

XXXVIII. An ACT for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, alled *Connecticut* claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of *uzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

XXXIX. An ACT for opening a road between the river *Suſquehanna*, at the alls of *Neſcopeck*, and the *Lehigh*, at or near the *Union* ſaw-mill.

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Adjourned until *Tueſday*, the fourth day of *September* next, at three o'clock, . M.

APPENDIX.

The following papers were handed in too late to be inſerted in their proper places.

REASONS of Diſſent of the Minority againſt enacting into a law the bill, entituled "*An Act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of the ſtate, by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands which were located before the declaration of independence.*"

1ſt. BECAUSE the ſituation of our finances does not admit of the relinquiſhment of any demands which belong to the ſtate, and by the proſecution whereof ſupplies of money may be brought into the treaſury.

2d. Becauſe, of all claims which the ſtate has upon its citizens to contribute to the public neceſſities, that now in queſtion admits of the leaſt cavil or objection. The poſſeſſors of land who are to be relieved by this law were not only in debt for arrearages, but they were bound to pay a conſiderable annual quit-rent, which has already been aboliſhed. The legiſlature, by relinquiſhing that revenue, has (of courſe) been obliged to lay heavier taxes on the citizens at large, for the mere emolument of a particular claſs. *Theſe*, having already received ſo great a favour, ought in gratitude, as well as juſtice, to diſcharge what remains due.

3d. The laws now in exiſtence have already directed the mode and period of payment. *Some* of our fellow citizens have diſcharged their debt from principles of juſtice, *others* in obedience to thoſe laws, and *both*, by ſo doing, as they paid earlier, have paid more than delinquents. The propoſed extenſion of time, and alterations in the manner of paying, operate, therefore, as a penalty on the obedient, and a reward to the refractory.

4th. Every ſuch relaxation deſtroys confidence in the government, encourages diſobedience to the laws, impairs the public revenue, and tends to deſtroy the public credit.

5th. Becauſe a new ſcene of ſpeculation will hereby be opened, injurious to the public creditors, and deſtructive of honeſt induſtry. The amendment (by which it would have been provided that no other certificates ſhould be receivable for theſe arrearages of purchaſe money, than ſuch as had been given to the party for money lent, ſupplies furniſhed, or ſervices performed, for the public) was rejected: Conſequently, that which is ſpeciouſly held out as a *relief to the public creditors*, becomes (in fact) a mere *encouragement to ſpeculators*, and, inſtead of expediting the payment, tends to retard it; ſince it is natural that thoſe who are to pay certificates ſhould delay the payment, in order to purchaſe them at the cheapeſt rate.

6th. Becauſe by this means, alſo, a premium is held out to neglect payment of the taxes: for as the value of certificates depends on the payment of intereſt, and *that* on the payment of taxes, every delay in ſuch payment muſt leſſen the value of certificates, and thereby enable the defaulter to purchaſe them at a cheaper rate from thoſe who are in diſtreſſed circumſtances.

7th. Becauſe a diſtinction is made among the citizens of *Pennſylvania*, *unjuſt* in its nature, and *dangerous* in its effects. Thoſe who owe money to the ſtate *for lands on which they live*, are allowed both time and convenience for the payment. Thoſe who muſt contribute *for taxes* to the public burthens, are called on rigorouſly for a full and ſpeedy diſcharge. Hence it is to be apprehended, that the taxables will in *their* turn require like indulgence, both as to the *time* and the *currency* in which they are to contribute.

8th. Becauſe, if (as is too probable) a claim ſhould be made *for paying taxes in certificates*, the legiſlature cannot, on principles of equal juſtice, withhold their aſſent. And if they ſhould comply, the funds for paying intereſt on the certificates will be totally incompetent; and thoſe who have truſted the ſtate on the late funding ſyſtem be utterly defrauded.

9th. Becauſe the reaſon aſſigned, *viz.* "that in many caſes the arrearages "are ſo great, that the owners are incapable of paying," militates againſt the law: For if they be unable *now*, they will every day lie under greater diſadvantage, ſince the debt is continually encreaſing.

10th. Becauſe another reaſon aſſigned for delay, *viz.* "the oldneſs of the debt," is both fallacious and unjuſt. If the oldneſs be now a *ſufficient* cauſe for delay, two years hence that cauſe will be *more than ſufficient* for granting a *further* delay. Thoſe in arrear to the ſtate have already received indulgencies, detrimental to thoſe who are punctual in diſcharging their dues. They, by this law, are to receive *further* indulgencies, and (if the preſent policy be purſued) thoſe only will bear the public burthens, whoſe obedience to the laws ſhould entitle them to favorable indulgence.

11th. Becauſe a third reaſon (greatly relied on) is of the moſt dangerous tendency, and deſtructive of all peace and order in ſociety. It is ſaid, "that delinquents muſt be indulged, becauſe the debts cannot be collected." In other words, *that the ſtate cannot compel obedience to its laws.* If this be ſo, the more numerous are the delinquencies, and the more obſtinate the delinquents, the greater will be their chance of impunity. Hence it is to be apprehended, that the authority of the laws will be ſet at defiance.

12th. Becauſe theſe arrearages have long ſince been appropriated to the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in *April*, 1781. And although it is provided by the preſent law, that one fourth of ſuch arrearages ſhall ſtill be paid in the ſaid bills, yet this is a violation of the public faith: For the holders of them are entitled to a *ſpeedy* as well as *real* payment, and every thing which defeats their ſecurity, either as to *time* or *value*, is materially injurious. The ſame kind of difficulties may and probably will occur, when the bills now in circulation are to be called in. Theſe bills paſs at conſiderable diſcount, by reaſon of the apprehenſions which people entertain as to the eventual diſcharge, and the law in queſtion gives but too much ground for ſuch apprehenſions.

Robert Morris,
Adam Hubley, jun.
Samuel Evans,
William Robinſon, jun.
Richard Thomas,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
John Salter,
Alexander Lowrey,
Robert Ralſton,
Charles Moore,
Richard Willing,

Thomas Fitzſimons,
Samuel Foulke,
George Clymer,
Townſend Whelen,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Samuel Wheeler,
Jacob Reiff, ſen.
David M'Conaughy,
Valentine Upp,
William Will.

DISSENTIENT *to the appointment, by this Houſe, of the Commiſſioners, who are to aſcertain the claims of the ſettlers under* Connecticut, *within the county of* Luzerne.

1ſt. BECAUSE it is expreſly declared in the 20th ſection of the conſtitution of this ſtate, that "the Preſident and Council are to expedite the execution of ſuch meaſures as ſhall be reſolved on by the General Aſſembly;" and we conſider the nominating of the Commiſſioners in this caſe by the General Aſſembly as a ſimilar violation of the conſtitution with that of the appointing Commiſſioners by act of legiſlature to execute the act for guarding and defending the navigation of the *Delaware*, enacted the

9th of *April*, 1782, which hath been denounced againſt, as an infringement of the conſtitution, by the Council of Cenſors.

2d. Becauſe the appointment of officers, whether occaſional or permanent, is in its nature an executive buſineſs, and as ſuch, in a government like ours, where the legiſlative authority is ſevered from the executive, belongs excluſively to the Preſident and Council; an idea which is decidedly ſupported by the firſt part of the twentieth article of the frame of government, and which accords with the writings of the beſt authors on republican governments, who declare that the liberty of the citizens depends on the ſeparation of theſe two powers.

Robert Whitehill,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Mitchell,
Robert Brown,
David Davis,
Samuel Dale,
William Findley,
Robert Clark,
Joſeph Heiſter,
John M'Dowell,
John Flenniken,
James Alliſon,
Theophilus Philips,
John Gilchreeſt,
Abraham Smith,
Alexander Wright,
John Piper.

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MINUTES
OF THE
THIRD SESSION
OF THE ELEVENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at *Philadelphia*, on *Tueſday*, the Fourth day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſeven.

Tueſday, *September* 4, 1787. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment, but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock to morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *September* 5, 1787. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum, met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Burkhalter* and Mr. *Antes* be a committee, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

Mr. Speaker informed the Houſe, that the Honorable Convention of the United States, during the receſs of the Houſe, had met in the room appropriated to the uſe of the General Aſſembly, and that the ſeſſion of the Convention would probably not be cloſed before the end of next week, and requeſted to know what order the Houſe would be pleaſed to take on the ſubject: Thereupon,

Reſolved, That this Houſe do adjourn, to meet in the chamber above ſtairs to-morrow, at half paſt nine o'clock, A. M.

Adjourned accordingly.

Thurſday, September 6, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 230 inhabitants of the county of *York* was read, ſtating certain grievances in the preſent mode of collecting debts by legal proceſs, and praying the revival of an act paſſed in the year 1700, which empowered the juſtices of the county courts to appoint appraiſers of goods taken in execution, at whoſe appraiſement the creditor was obliged to receive them; alſo praying that conſtables may be made elective by the qualified freeholders of the reſpective townſhips, and empowered to ſerve proceſs equally with the Sheriff's officers, at the preſent rates allowed to conſtables.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the miniſter and truſtees of the *Scots* Preſbyterian church in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying, that the act, entituled, "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction,*" may be ſuſpended, until the ſuits now depending in the Supreme Court ſhall be determined.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Aſſociate congregation of *Pequea* and *Brandywine,* of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petition, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, to inform the Supreme Executive Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported, that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council would lay ſome buſineſs before the Houſe this forenoon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Paul Hauſman, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of* Lancaſter," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the* German *Reformed congregation of* Frankford, *in the townſhip of* Oxford, *and county of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A Meſſage from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* VICE-PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE Secretary will lay before you a letter from the Secretary for foreign affairs, of the 3d of *July*, incloſing extracts of ſundry letters tranſmitted by the Honorable Mr. *Adams*—two letters from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, of the 2d and 21ſt of *July*, incloſing ſome returns of the ſtate of repreſentation in Congreſs—an ordinance of Congreſs reſpecting public accounts which remain unliquidated, and a copy of the treaty of peace with the Emperor of *Morocco*—a report of the Board of Treaſury of the United States—ſundry reſolutions of Congreſs; one of them recommending the repeal of all legiſlative acts, repugnant to the treaty of peace with Great-Britain; one other relating to penſions due to officers in the late army; and a third, allowing further time for exhibiting claims againſt the United States—a tranſcript of the record of the conviction of *Thomas Dyer*, a Juſtice of the Peace in *Bucks* county, for an aſſault and battery upon *Joſeph Thomas*, of the ſaid county—a memorial from divers claimants of land in the county of *Luzerne*—and a petition from *Anne Downey*.

In a meſſage from this Board to your Honorable Houſe in *November* laſt, we recommended the ſale of the reſerved tract oppoſite to *Pittſburgh*—a bill for this purpoſe has been publiſhed for conſideration, and ordered to be engroſſed. We are of opinion it will be of advantage to the ſtate, if this bill is enacted into a law during this ſeſſion.

CHARLES BIDDLE, Vice-Preſident.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, September 6, 1787.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſaid meſſage and papers be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Findley*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for granting unto* George Wall, *junior, the* "*ſole and excluſive privilege of making and vending a mathematical inſtrument by* "*him invented, for the term of twenty-one years,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to confirm and amend the charter of incorpora*"*tion of the United* Swediſh *Lutheran churches of* Wicacoa, Kingſeſſing *and* "Upper Merion, *called* Gloria Dei, *St.* James's, *and* Chriſt-Church, was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, September 7, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 812 inhabitants of the counties of *Cumberland, Bedford* and *Northumberland*, was read, praying this Houſe to grant them a ſum of money ſufficient to repair the road leading through *Croghan*'s Gap and *White's*

Narrows, and to appoint ſome fit perſon or perſons as Commiſſioners to ſuperintend the laying out ſaid money.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Elders and others, members of the firſt Preſbyterian congregation, at the *Big-Spring*, in *Newtown* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 62 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying *Chartier*'s creek may be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Kaſſelman*, of the county of *Bedford*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath been fraudulently diſpoſſeſſed of a tract of land in the ſaid county, and praying the poſſeſſion thereof may be reſtored to him.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to repeal part of the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate " the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, " and to amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Roſs*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Whitehill*, ſeconded by Mr. *Smith*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to declare and regulate Eſcheats*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Brackenridge*, ſeconded by Mr. *D. Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and* " Joſeph Baldwin *in and to a ferry over* Neſhaminey *creek, in the county of* " Bucks, *on the main road from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them* " *to maintain a bridge acroſs the ſaid creek, at the ſaid place*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to empower certain members of the corporation of* " *the rector, church-wardens and veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal churches of* " Chriſt-church *and St.* Peter*'s church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *to ſell a* " *certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the future endowment of* Pittſburgh *aca*" *demy*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a public ferry over the river* Schuyl" kill, *near* Spring-Mill, *in the county of* Montgomery, *and veſting the right* " *in* Peter Le Gaux, *his heirs and aſſigns*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for incorporating the German Reformed Con-*"
"*gregation of* Frankford, *in the township of* Oxford, *and county of* Philadel-"
"phia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the German Lutheran Congre-*"
"*gation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 8, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 1363 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* were read, praying that the lines mentioned in the bill, entituled "*An*"
"*Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into*"
"*a ſeparate county,*" may be extended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 6th, on the meſſage from the Vice-Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Wynkoop,* ſeconded by Mr. *Brackenridge,*

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and*"
"Joſeph Baldwin *in and to a ferry over* Neſhaminey *creek, in the county of*"
"Bucks, *on the main road from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them*"
"*to maintain a bridge acroſs the ſaid creek, at the ſaid place,*" and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to*"
"*divide* Waſhington *county into election diſtricts;*" and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Piper,*

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *D. Clymer,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee, to inſpect the act, entituled "*An Act for direct-*"
"*ing the mode of diſtributing the donation lands, promiſed to the troops by this com-*"
"*monwealth,*" and conſider the propriety of prolonging the time fixed by the ſaid act for the application of officers and ſoldiers entitled to lands within this ſtate, and, if they deem it neceſſary, to report a bill accordingly.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to divide the county of* Franklin *into election*"
"*diſtricts, and to alter the place for holding the general election in the ſixth diſtrict*"
"*in the county of* Bedford, *and for making the townſhips of* Greenwood *and*"
"Rye, *in the county of* Cumberland, *a ſixth diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding*"
"*general elections,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a public ferry over the river* Schuyl-"
"kill, *near* Spring-Mill, *in the county of* Montgomery, *and veſting the right*"
"*in* Peter Le Gaux, *his heirs and aſſigns,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 10, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne* was read, ſetting forth, that their lands have been ſeized on by perſons claiming under *Connecticut*; that although their ſincere deſire is to acquieſce in every meaſure that tends to the honor or intereſt of the ſtate, yet, as the operation of the law for granting away their property appears ruinous to their intereſt as land-holders, they pray for a re-conſideration thereof, and that a committee may be appointed to hear them on the ſubject.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from Colonel *Francis Mentges*, Inſpector-General of the militia of this ſtate, was read, referring to the recommendation of Council to this Houſe for payment of his ſervices, and requeſting the ſame may be taken into conſideration, and ſuch compenſation allowed him as may be deemed reaſonable.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Richard Wells*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that in the month of *May* laſt, the ſhip *Anna*, the property of the petitioner and *John Clifford*, was ſeized by the Naval Officer, upon allegation of having imported and landed a quantity of bottled porter without being entered, and condemned after a trial by a ſtruck jury before the Judges of the court of common pleas, although it appeared in full evidence, that the goods ſo imported were privately landed by the mate, and that the owners had no intereſt in the ſaid goods; that the ſupplement to the impoſt law, paſſed the fifteenth day of *March* laſt, whilſt the ſaid ſhip was at ſea, was conſtrued ſo very ſtrictly as to effect her condemnation, whereby a very valuable property was taken from them for the guilt and malconduct of others; and praying that the ſhare forfeited to the ſtate by virtue of the ſaid act may be relinquiſhed in favor of the owners.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Young*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from further confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 129 inhabitants of the weſtern part of the fourth diſtrict for holding the general elections in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, praying that they may be allowed to hold their elections at the houſe of *David Luſk*, in *Lower Bald Eagle* townſhip.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Stewart*, late a ſurgeon in the *Pennſylvania* line, was read, ſetting forth, that he was deranged about three months before the army were diſbanded, by reaſon whereof twenty dollars per month, for five years of his commutation, have been ſtopped, and praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice* and others.

The petition of *Abraham Lukens,* read *March* 6th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *C. Moore,* to report thereon.

The petition of 62 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* read *September* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Waſhington,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Humphrey Fullerton,* read *March* 28th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Antes,* Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Wright,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Joſeph M'Clellan* and others, commiſſioners of the county of *Cheſter,* read *March* 17th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *C. Moore,* with inſtructions to bring in a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the borough of *Cheſter,* read *March* 20th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Cheſter,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the upper Preſbyterian congregation of* Marſh-creek, *in the county of* York," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate and endow an Academy or public School in the town of* Waſhington," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to divide the counties of* Franklin *and* Fayette *into election diſtricts, to alter the place for holding the general election in the ſixth diſtrict in the county of* Bedford, *and for making the townſhips of* Greenwood *and* Rye, *in the county of* Cumberland, *a ſixth election diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding general elections.*

An ACT *for granting unto* George Wall, *junior, the ſole and excluſive privilege of making and vending a mathematical inſtrument by him invented, for the term of twenty-one years.*

An ACT *to incorporate the* German *Lutheran congregation in the borough of* Reading, *in the county of* Berks.

An ACT *to confirm and amend the charter of incorporation of the United* Swediſh *Lutheran churches of* Wicacoa, Kingſeſſing *and* Upper-Merion, *called* Gloria Dei, *St.* James'*s and* Chriſt-Church.

An ACT *for the future endowment of the* Pittſburgh *Academy.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 11, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Zachariah Connell* was read, referring to his memorial preſented to the late Houſe *February* 25th, 1786, and praying leave to bring in a bill, to eſtabliſh a ferry acroſs the *Youghiogeny* river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Michael Dowd*, of the county of *Bucks*, was read, ſetting forth, that *Samuel Biles*, late of *Southampton* townſhip, in the county aforeſaid, was indebted to the petitioner on bond in the ſum of *three hundred and five pounds* ſpecie principal, with the intereſt thereof; that he exhibited his claim to the Supreme Court, after ſale of the eſtate of ſaid *Biles*, agreeably to law, but hath been informed that he can receive no more than a proportionable part of what the ſaid eſtate ſold for, although the ſame is more than ſufficient to pay every juſt debt due from ſaid *Biles*; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 120 inhabitants of the borough of *Reading*, and others in the county of *Berks*, was read, ſtating divers inconveniencies ariſing under a late act of the General Aſſembly, which repeals the power of the Burgeſſes of the ſaid borough to act as Juſtices of the peace in and for the ſaid county; and praying the power of the Burgeſſes may be reſtored, or that an act may be paſſed, empowering the ſaid inhabitants to elect and have one or two more Juſtices of the peace.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Samuel Eſſop*, late a corporal in the regiment of artillery belonging to this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt certificates received by him on a final ſettlement of his accounts, to the amount of *one hundred and thirty-one pounds eighteen ſhillings*; and praying new certificates may be iſſued in lieu of thoſe which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Ann Gardner*, formerly *Ann Nelſon*, was read, ſtating, that her father *Henry Nelſon* died ſeized of a conſiderable real eſtate, leaving iſſue *Thomas Nelſon* and the petitioner; that the ſaid *Thomas* enjoyed it during his life time, and after deviſed the ſame to his natural ſon *Valentine*, who died unmarried and without iſſue, whereby the ſaid eſtate eſcheated to the commonwealth, although the poſſeſſion thereof is held by the perſon now occupying the ſame; therefore praying that a compleat, perfect and legal title in and to the premiſes may be veſted in her.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Newtown*, in the county of *Bucks*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* Newtown *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying the ſaid bill may not be enacted into a law, unleſs the whole townſhip, as originally laid out, be comprehended within the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 1585 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable* *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and to*

“ *ſell the court-houſe and priſon in the county of* Northumberland,” may be enacted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from the inhabitants of the town of *Greenſburgh*, and others, inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, were read, ſetting forth, that in conſequence of the court-houſe and priſon being erected in *Greenſburgh*, under the ſanction of an act of the legiſlature, they were induced to purchaſe lots in the ſaid town, and to erect thereon dwelling-houſes, and praying that the ſeat of juſtice may not be removed, but that they may be heard by council, and after a thorough inveſtigation, if the removal ſhould be deemed expedient, that they be allowed an adequate compenſation for their loſſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 26th laſt, on the petition of *Moſes Mc-Clean*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Canon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carſon*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for erecting part of the county of* Bedford *into a ſeparate county*,” and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for the relief of* Paul Hauſman, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of* Lancaſter;” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *An Act to repeal part of the act, entituled* “ An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, and to amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate by the act, entituled* “ An Act for the ſale of certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other lands therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided off to them, ſeverally, at the end of the war,” having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 12, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark*, *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk*, was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled “ *An Act*

“ *to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* “ Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accom-* “ *modation of the inhabitants; and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through* “ *the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk;” and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law until they be heard by their committee.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from divers inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be removed to *Hanna*'s town.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Propoſals for building a court-houſe and priſon at *Hanna*'s town, in the county of *Weſtmoreland,* in caſe the legiſlature ſhould eſtabliſh that place as the ſeat of juſtice, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the freemen of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter,* in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, praying that the boundaries of the ſaid town may be eſtabliſhed, and entitled to all the privileges with other county towns incorporated within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of 120 inhabitants of the borough of *Reading,* and others in the county of *Berks,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Berks* county, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *September* 10th, reported a bill, entituled “ *An Act to enable the Commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell* “ *and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county* “ *aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this common-* “ *wealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities at a reaſonable* “ *intereſt,*” and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *An Act for the re-* “ *gulation of auctions and vendues,*” was read the third time; and having been in part debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Dale,* ſeconded by Mr. *Barr,*

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to enable*
“ *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and* “ *to ſell the court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury, *in the county of* “ Northumberland,” and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church* “ *of St.* John, *at* York-town,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, *September* 13, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 753 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland*, *Waſhington* and *Fayette*, were read, praying parts of the ſaid counties may be erected into a new county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Michael Eberle* was read, ſetting forth, that by reaſon of a ſtroke of the palſey he is become incapable of procuring a livelihood for himſelf and family; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him ſome relief, by an advancement of part of the money due to him for his ſervices rendered in the army, during the late war.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Robert Galbreath*, Eſquire, was read, containing ſome remarks relative to the petition of *Lewis Kaſtleman*, read *September* 7th inſtant.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Lewis Kaſtleman*, read *September* 7th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be diſmiſſed.

The letter from Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read *September* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The petition of the freemen of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter*, in the county of *Cheſter*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to declare and regulate Eſcheats*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and that in the mean while Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Brackenridge* be a committee, to conſider of and report ſuch fees to be allowed an Eſcheator-General, as to them may ſeem expedient,

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to repeal part of the act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, and to amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries."

An ACT *to incorporate the Upper Preſbyterian congregation of* Marſh-Creek, *in the county of* York.

An ACT *for the relief of* Paul Hauſman, *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of* Lancaſter."

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 14, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 603 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying the bill, entituled, "*An Act for erecting part of* Bedford *county into* "*a ſeparate county*," may be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Lancaſter* was read, praying the bill, entituled, "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogo *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," may be enacted into a law, with the inſertion of a clauſe for leaving an open ſpace, where travellers may ford the ſaid creek.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a conſiderable number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled, "*An Act to enable* *to build a new court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumberland," and praying the ſame may not be enacted into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas M'Cormick* was read, ſetting forth that he ſerved in the line of this ſtate during the late war, and praying for the allowance of depreciation due on his pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice*, and others.

A tranſcript of the accounts of the Managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, for the year preceding, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee to viſit the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, and report.

The committee appointed *September* 12th, on the petition from a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Reading*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*," was read the third time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe take up the ſame for debating by paragraphs?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Brackenridge* and Mr. *Whitehill*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Robinſon*, jun.
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
5 *John Chapman*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *James Moore*,
8 *Richard Willing*,
9 *Robert Ralſton*,
10 *Samuel Evans*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

14 *Adam Hubley*,
15 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
16 *George Roſs*,
17 *David M'Conaughy*,
18 *Michael Schmyſer*,
19 *David M'Clellan*,
20 *Joſeph Lilley*,
21 *Daniel Clymer*,
22 *John Cancn*,
23 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
24 *Charles Moore*,
25 *Samuel Wheeler*,

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray*,
2 *George Logan*,
3 *Samuel Foulke*,
4 *James Clemſon*,
5 *Robert Whitehill*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *David Mitchell*,
8 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *David Davis*,
12 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
13 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
14 *Robert Brown*,
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,
16 *John Piper*,
17 *Joſeph Powell*,

NAYS.

18 *Frederick Antes*,
19 *Samuel Dale*,
20 *William Findley*,
21 *James Barr*,
22 *Alexander Wright*,
23 *John M‘Dowell*,
24 *John Flenniken*,
25 *James Alliſon*,
26 *Theophilus Philips*,
27 *John Gilchreeſt*,
28 *Abraham Smith*,
29 *James M‘Calmont*,
30 *Jacob Reiff*,
31 *Robert Clark*,
32 *Jacob Miley*,
33 *John Carſon*.

So it was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled, “ *An Act for erecting part of* Bedford *county in a ſeparate county*,” was read the third time: Whereupon,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 15, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 789 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the freemen of the third election diſtrict in the county of *Northampton* was read, praying to be entitled to hold their general elections in a more central part of ſaid diſtrict.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Lebanon*, *Heidleburgh*, *Elizabeth* and *Cocalico*, was read, ſetting forth, that the line dividing the county of *Dauphin* from the county of *Lancaſter*, as run by *Thomas Clark* and *John Clendenen*, is erroneous, and praying that the line run by *Bartram Galbreath* and *James Cunningham* may be eſtabliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to eſtabliſh the right of* Joſeph Vandegrift *and* “ Joſeph Baldwin *in and to a ferry over* Neſhaminey *creek*, *in the county of* “ Bucks, *on the main road from* Philadelphia *to* Briſtol, *and to authoriſe them* “ *to maintain a bridge acroſs the ſaid creek*, *at the ſaid place*:” And on the queſtion, “ *Shall the ſame be taken up for debating by paragraphs?*

It was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *An Act to enable*
to build a
“
“ *new court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Northumberland, *and to ſell the court-*

" *court-houſe and priſon in the town of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumber-" land," was read the third time: Whereupon,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to* " *divide* Waſhington *county into election diſtricts*."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the elections of the county of *Waſhington*, which is divided into ſix diſtricts, ſhall be held in ſix places, to wit: The freemen of the county within the following bounds, beginning at the mouth of *Ten Mile* creek, and up the ſame to the head of *David Gray*'s branch, and thence to the neareſt head of *Wheeling* creek, and down ſaid creek to the ſtate line, thence along ſaid line to *Monongahela* river, thence down ſaid river to the place of beginning, being the firſt diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the houſe of *Jacob Kline*, on *Muddy* creek. The freemen of the following bounds, beginning at the mouth of *Peter*'s creek, and up the ſame to the head of the ſouth fork thereof, thence along the dividing ridge, which divides the waters of *Monongahela* river and *Chartier*'s creek, to the great road leading from *Redſtone* ferry to *Waſhington*, near *Martin Dagger*'s, thence by a ſtraight line to *David Enoch*'s mill, on the north fork of *Ten Mile* creek, thence by a ſouth line to the principal ſouth fork of ſaid creek, thence with a line of the firſt diſtrict down ſaid creek, to *Monongahela* river, thence down ſaid river to the place of beginning, being the ſecond diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at *Shaſbazer Bentley*'s mill, on *Pidgeon* creek. The freemen of the following bounds, beginning at the mouth of *Montour*'s run, (*Ohio* river) thence up ſaid run, to the head of the principal branch thereof, thence ſouth, (croſſing *Robinſon*'s run) to *Miller*'s run, thence down ſaid run to *Chartier*'s creek, thence by a ſtraight line to the head of the principal fork of *Peter*'s creek, thence with the line of the ſecond diſtrict down ſaid creek, to *Monongahela* river, and down ſaid river to *Ohio* river, and down ſaid river to the place of beginning, being the third diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the houſe of *Daniel Shaughan*, in ſaid diſtrict. The freemen of the following bounds, beginning at the head of *Peter*'s creek, and along the lines of the ſecond diſtrict, to the ſouth fork of *Ten Mile* creek, thence weſterly by the lines of the firſt diſtrict, to the weſtern boundary line of the ſtate, thence north to *Croſs* creek, thence up ſaid creek to *Marſhal*'s ſaw-mill, thence to the head thereof at *William Campbell*'s, thence along the dividing ridge to *Miller*'s run, thence with ſaid run to *Chartier*'s creek, thence along the line of the third diſtrict to the place of beginning, being the fourth diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the Court-Houſe in the town of *Waſhington*. The freemen of the following bounds, beginning at the mouth of *Montour*'s run, thence with the lines of the third diſtrict to *Miller*'s run, to the head thereof, thence with the line of the fourth diſtrict, and to the neareſt place on ſaid line to the heads of *Raccoon* creek, from thence a ſtraight line to ſaid creek, and down the ſame to *Ohio* river, thence up ſaid river to the place of beginning, being the fifth diſtrict, ſhall hold their elections at the houſe of *Joſhua Meek*, in ſaid diſtrict. And all the freemen of the remainder of the county, not included in the beforementioned diſtricts, ſhall hold their elections at the houſe of *George Blazer*, on the waters of *King*'s creek.

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Dowell* and Mr. *Flenniken*,

To inſert, after the words “ by the authority of the ſame, That,” the words, *from and after the ninth day of* October *next*.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Dowell* and Mr. *Brackenridge*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
2 *John Chapman*,
3 *David M‘Clellan*,
4 *Robert Whitehill*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Philip Kreemer*,
9 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
10 *David Davis*,
11 *Daniel Clymer*,
12 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
13 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
14 *Peter Burkhalter*,
15 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

16 *Joſeph Powell*,
17 *Frederick Antes*,
18 *Samuel Dale*,
19 *William Findley*,
20 *James Barr*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John M‘Dowell*,
23 *John Flenniken*,
24 *James Alliſon*,
25 *Theophilus Philips*,
26 *John Gilchreeſt*,
27 *Abraham Smith*,
28 *James M‘Calmont*,
29 *Robert Clark*,
30 *Jacob Miley*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
3 *William Robinſon*, jun.
4 *George Logan*,
5 *Samuel Foulke*,
6 *Valentine Upp*,
7 *James Moore*,
8 *Richard Willing*,
9 *Robert Ralſton*,
10 *Samuel Evans*,
11 *Richard Thomas*,
12 *Townſend Whelen*,
13 *Alexander Lowrey*,

NAYS.

14 *Adam Hubley*,
15 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
16 *George Roſs*,
17 *James Clemſon*,
18 *David M‘Conaughy*,
19 *Michael Schmyſer*,
20 *Joſeph Lilley*,
21 *John Canon*,
22 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
23 *Charles Moore*,
24 *Jacob Reiff*,
25 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having thereupon been debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion of Mr. *Lilley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Conaughy*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled, “ *An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into* “ *a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments* “ *on the common ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other* “ *purpoſes therein mentioned*,” and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Canon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Brackenridge*, *Ordered,* That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Bedford *county into a ſeparate* "*county,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Hubley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Roſs,*

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogo *creek,* "*in the county of* Lancaſter," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, *September* 17, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Elizabeth Deckert* was read, ſetting forth, that the eſtate of her late huſband *Peter Deckert* ſtands charged with a balance of about *three hundred and ſixty pounds,* by him received in payment of taxes in *Cumru* townſhip, in the county of *Berks,* and praying that certificates given to him for his ſervices during the late war may be received in payment thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from divers inhabitants of the town of *Sunbury,* in the county of *Northumberland,* and elſewhere, were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled, "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* "Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of the inhabitants of the borough of *Cheſter,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Members repreſenting this ſtate in the Fœderal Convention was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

S I R, *Philadelphia,* 17th *September,* 1787.

THE Convention having decided on the form of a Conſtitution, to be recommended to the conſideration of the United States, we take the earlieſt moment to communicate this important intelligence to the Aſſembly of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* and to requeſt you would inform that Honorable Houſe, that we ſhall be ready to report to them at ſuch time and place as they may direct.

With perfect reſpect, we have the honor to be,

S I R, *Your moſt obedient and humble Servants,*

B. FRANKLIN,
ROBERT MORRIS,
THOMAS MIFFLIN,
GEORGE CLYMER,
JARED INGERSOLL,
THOMAS FITZSIMONS,
GOVERNEUR MORRIS,
JAMES WILSON.

The Honorable the SPEAKER
of the Houſe of Aſſembly.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*,

Ordered, That eleven o'clock to-morrow morning be aſſigned for receiving e ſaid report.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *September* 18, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Anthony Baiſtide*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from s confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read e ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, report thereon.

The petition of *James Young*, read *September* 10th, was read the ſecond me.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report ereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Sunbury*, in the coun- y of *Northumberland*, and elſewhere, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond me.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *White- ill*, Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *C. Moore* be a committee, to introduce he Honorable the Deputies repreſenting this ſtate in the Fœderal Conven- on into the Aſſembly Chamber, for the purpoſe of reporting to this Houſe he Conſtitution agreed to by the Convention, for the government of the United States.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable* ' *aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money* ' *upon mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt*," was read the hird time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration f the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of* Bedford *county into a* ' *ſeparate county*."

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed, that the Deputies from this ſtate to the late General Convention may be intro- duced.

The Honorable the Deputies repreſenting this ſtate in the late Fœderal Convention being introduced, his Excellency the Preſident of this common- wealth addreſſed the Speaker in the following words:

S I R,

I HAVE now the very great ſatisfaction of delivering to you, and to this Honorable Houſe, the reſult of our deliberations in the late Convention: We hope and believe, that the meaſures recommended by that body will produce happy effects to this commonwealth, as well as to every other of the United States.

His Excellency then preſented to the Speaker the Conſtitution, agreed to in Convention, for the government of the United States, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, eſtabliſh juſtice, enſure domeſtic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and ſecure the bleſſings of liberty to ourſelves and our poſterity, do ordain and eſtabliſh this conſtitution for the United States of *America*.

ARTICLE I.

Sect. 1. ALL legiſlative powers herein granted ſhall be veſted in a Congreſs of the United States, which ſhall conſiſt of a Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives.

Sect. 2. The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall be compoſed of members choſen every ſecond year by the people of the ſeveral ſtates, and the electors in each ſtate ſhall have the qualifications requiſite for electors of the moſt numerous branch of the ſtate legiſlature.

No perſon ſhall be a Repreſentative, who ſhall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been ſeven years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate in which he ſhall be choſen.

Repreſentatives and direct taxes ſhall be apportioned among the ſeveral ſtates which may be included within this Union, according to their reſpective numbers, which ſhall be determined by adding to the whole number of free perſons, including thoſe bound to ſervice for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other perſons. The actual enumeration ſhall be made within three years after the firſt meeting of the Congreſs of the United States, and within every ſubſequent term of ten years, in ſuch manner as they ſhall by law direct. The number of Repreſentatives ſhall not exceed one for every thirty thouſand, but each ſtate ſhall have at leaſt one Repreſentative; and until ſuch enumeration ſhall be made, the ſtate of *New-Hampſhire* ſhall be entitled to chuſe three, *Maſſachuſetts* eight, *Rhode-Iſland* and *Providence Plantations* one, *Connecticut* five, *New-York* ſix, *New-Jerſey* four, *Pennſylvania* eight, *Delaware* one, *Maryland* ſix, *Virginia* ten, *North-Carolina* five, *South-Carolina* five, and *Georgia* three.

When vacancies happen in the repreſentation from any ſtate, the Executive authority thereof ſhall iſſue writs of election to fill ſuch vacancies.

The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall chuſe their Speaker and other officers; and ſhall have the ſole power of impeachment.

Sect. 3. The Senate of the United States ſhall be compoſed of two Senators from each ſtate, choſen by the Legiſlature thereof, for ſix years; and each Senator ſhall have one vote.

Immediately after they ſhall be aſſembled in conſequence of the firſt election, they ſhall be divided as equally as may be into three claſſes. The ſeats of the Senators of the firſt claſs ſhall be vacated at the expiration of the ſecond year, of the ſecond claſs at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third claſs at the expiration of the ſixth year, ſo that one third may be choſen every ſecond year; and if vacancies happen by reſignation, or otherwiſe, during the receſs of the Legiſlature of any ſtate, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Legiſlature, which ſhall then fill ſuch vacancies.

No perſon ſhall be a Senator, who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate for which he ſhall be choſen.

The Vice-Preſident of the United States ſhall be Preſident of the Senate, but ſhall have no vote, unleſs they be equally divided.

The Senate ſhall chuſe their other officers, and alſo a Preſident *pro tempore*, in the abſence of the Vice-Preſident, or when he ſhall exerciſe the office of Preſident of the United States.

The Senate ſhall have the ſole power to try all impeachments. When ſitting for that purpoſe, they ſhall be on oath or affirmation. When the Preſident of the United States is tried, the Chief Juſtice ſhall preſide: And no perſon ſhall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members preſent.

Judgment in cases of impeachment ſhall not extend further than to removal from office, and diſqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, truſt or profit under the United States; but the party convicted ſhall nevertheleſs be liable and ſubject to indictment, trial, judgment and puniſhment, according to law.

Sect. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Repreſentatives ſhall be preſcribed in each ſtate by the legiſlature thereof; but the Congreſs may at any time by law make or alter ſuch regulations, except as to the places of chuſing Senators.

The Congreſs ſhall aſſemble at leaſt once in every year, and ſuch meeting ſhall be on the firſt *Monday* in *December*, unleſs they ſhall by law appoint a different day.

Sect. 5. Each Houſe ſhall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each ſhall conſtitute a quorum to do buſineſs; but a ſmaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authoriſed to compel the attendance of abſent members, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch penalties, as each Houſe may provide.

Each Houſe may determine the rules of its proceedings, puniſh its members for diſorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each Houſe ſhall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publiſh the ſame, excepting ſuch parts as may in their judgment require ſecrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either Houſe on any queſtion ſhall, at the deſire of one fifth of thoſe preſent, be entered on the journal.

Neither Houſe, during the ſeſſion of Congreſs, ſhall, without the conſent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houſes ſhall be ſitting.

Sect. 6. The Senators and Repreſentatives ſhall receive a compenſation for their ſervices, to be aſcertained by law, and paid out of the Treaſury of the United States. They ſhall in all caſes, except treaſon, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arreſt during their attendance at the ſeſſion of their reſpective Houſes, and in going to and returning from the ſame; and for any ſpeech or debate in either Houſe, they ſhall not be queſtioned in any other place.

No Senator or Repreſentative ſhall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which ſhall have been created, or the emoluments whereof ſhall have been encreaſed during ſuch time; and no perſon holding any office under the United States ſhall be a member of either Houſe during his continuance in office.

Sect. 7. All bills for raiſing revenue ſhall originate in the Houſe of Repreſentatives; but the Senate may propoſe or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

Every bill which ſhall have paſſed the Houſe of Repreſentatives and the Senate, ſhall, before it become a law, be preſented to the Preſident of the United States; if he approve, he ſhall ſign it; but if not, he ſhall return it, with his objections to that Houſe in which it ſhall have originated, who ſhall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to re-conſider it. If, after ſuch re-conſideration, two thirds of that Houſe ſhall agree to paſs the bill, it ſhall be ſent, together with the objections, to the other Houſe, by which it ſhall likewiſe be re-conſidered, and, if approved by two thirds of that Houſe, it ſhall become a law. But in all ſuch caſes the votes of both Houſes ſhall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the perſons voting for and againſt the bill ſhall be entered on the journal of each Houſe reſpectively. If any bill ſhall not be returned by the Preſident within ten days (*Sundays* excepted) after it ſhall have been preſented to him, the ſame ſhall be a law, in like manner as if he had ſigned it, unleſs the Congreſs by their adjournment prevent its return, in which caſe it ſhall not be a law.

Every order, reſolution or vote, to which the concurrence of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives may be neceſſary (except on a queſtion of adjournment) ſhall be preſented to the Preſident of the United States; and before the ſame ſhall take effect, ſhall be approved by him, or, being diſapproved by him, ſhall be repaſſed by two thirds of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives, according to the rules and limitations preſcribed in the caſe of a bill.

Sect. 8. The Congreſs ſhall have power

To lay and collect taxes, duties, impoſts and exciſes, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, impoſts and exciſes ſhall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the ſeveral ſtates, and with the *Indian* tribes;

To eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the ſtandard of weights and meaſures;

To provide for the puniſhment of counterfeiting the ſecurities and current coin of the United States;

To eſtabliſh poſt offices and poſt roads;

To promote the progreſs of ſcience and uſeful arts, by ſecuring for limited times to authors and inventors the excluſive right to their reſpective writings and diſcoveries;

To conſtitute tribunals inferior to the ſupreme court;

To define and puniſh piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, and offences againſt the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and repriſal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raiſe and ſupport armies, but no appropriation of money to that uſe ſhall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, ſuppreſs inſurrections, and repeal invaſions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and diſciplining the militia, and for governing ſuch part of them as may be employed in the ſervice of the United States, reſerving to the ſtates reſpectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the diſcipline preſcribed by Congreſs;

To exerciſe excluſive legiſlation, in all caſes whatſoever, over ſuch diſtrict (not exceeding ten miles ſquare) as may, by ceſſion of particular ſtates, and the acceptance of Congreſs, become the ſeat of the government of the United States, and to exerciſe like authority over all places purchaſed by the conſent of the Legiſlature of the ſtate in which the ſame ſhall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arſenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings;—And

To make all laws which ſhall be neceſſary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers veſted by this conſtitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sect. 9. The migration or importation of ſuch perſons as any of the ſtates now exiſting ſhall think proper to admit, ſhall not be prohibited by the Congreſs prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be impoſed on ſuch importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each perſon.

The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* ſhall not be ſuſpended, unleſs when in caſes of rebellion or invaſion the public ſafety may require it.

No bill of attainder or *ex poſt facto* law ſhall be paſſed.

No capitation or other direct tax ſhall be laid, unleſs in proportion to the cenſus or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty ſhall be laid on articles exported from any ſtate. No preference ſhall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one ſtate over thoſe of another: nor ſhall veſſels bound to, or from, one ſtate, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money ſhall be drawn from the Treaſury, but in conſequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular ſtatement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money ſhall be publiſhed from time to time.

No title of nobility ſhall be granted by the United States:—And no perſon holding any office of profit or truſt under them ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, accept of any preſent, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign ſtate.

Sect. 10. No ſtate ſhall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and repriſal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and ſilver coin a tender in payment of debts; paſs any bill of attainder, *ex poſt facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, lay any impoſts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be abſolutely neceſſary for executing its inſpection laws; and the neat produce of all duties and impoſts, laid by any ſtate on imports or exports, ſhall be for the uſe of the Treaſury of the United States; and all ſuch laws ſhall be ſubject to the reviſion and controul of the Congreſs. No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of Congreſs, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ſhips of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another ſtate, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unleſs actually invaded, or in ſuch imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II.

Sect. 1. The executive power ſhall be veſted in a Preſident of the United States of *America*. He ſhall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice-Preſident, choſen for the ſame term, be elected as follows:

Each ſtate ſhall appoint, in ſuch manner as the legiſlature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Repreſentatives to which the ſtate may be entitled in the Congreſs: But no Senator or Repreſentative, or perſon holding an office of truſt or profit under the United States, ſhall be appointed an elector.

The electors ſhall meet in their reſpective ſtates, and vote by ballot for two perſons, of whom one at leaſt ſhall not be an inhabitant of the ſame ſtate with themſelves. And they ſhall make a liſt of the perſons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which liſt they ſhall ſign and certify, and tranſmit ſealed to the ſeat of the government of the United States, directed to the Preſident of the Senate. The Preſident of the Senate ſhall, in the preſence of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives, open all the certificates, and the votes ſhall then be counted. The perſon having the greateſt number of votes ſhall be the Preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have ſuch majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall immediately chuſe by ballot one of them for Preſident; and if no perſon have a majority, then from the five higheſt on the liſt the ſaid Houſe ſhall in like manner chuſe the Preſident. But in chuſing the Preſident, the votes ſhall be taken by ſtates, the Repreſentation from each ſtate having one vote; a quorum for this purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of a member or members from two thirds of the ſtates, and a majority of all the ſtates ſhall be neceſſary to a choice. In every caſe, after the choice of the Preſident, the perſon having the greateſt number of votes of the electors ſhall be the Vice-Preſident. But if there ſhould remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate ſhall chuſe from them by ballot the Vice-Preſident.

The Congreſs may determine the time of chuſing the electors, and the day on which they ſhall give their votes; which day ſhall be the ſame throughout the United States.

No perſon, except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States,
the time of the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be eligible to the office
Preſident; neither ſhall any perſon be eligible to that office, who ſhall not
ave attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a re-
dent within the United States.

In caſe of the removal of the Preſident from office, or of his death, re-
gnation, or inability to diſcharge the powers and duties of the ſaid office,
e ſame ſhall devolve on the Vice-Preſident, and the Congreſs may by law
rovide for the caſe of removal, death, reſignation or inability, both of the
reſident and Vice-Preſident, declaring what officer ſhall then act as Preſi-
ent, and ſuch officer ſhall act accordingly, until the diſability be removed,
r a Preſident ſhall be elected.

The Preſident ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for his ſervices a compenſation,
hich ſhall neither be encreaſed or diminiſhed during the period for which
e ſhall have been elected, and he ſhall not receive within that period any
ther emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he ſhall take the following
ath or affirmation:

“ I do ſolemnly ſwear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office
f Preſident of the United States, and will, to the beſt of my ability, pre-
erve, protect and defend the conſtitution of the United States.”

Sect. 2. The preſident ſhall be commander in chief of the army and navy
f the United States, and of the militia of the ſeveral ſtates, when called
nto the actual ſervice of the United States; he may require the opinion, in
writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon
any ſubject relating to the duties of their reſpective offices, and he ſhall have
power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences againſt the United States,
except in caſes of impeachment.

He ſhall have power, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators preſent concur; and he ſhall nominate, and, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, ſhall appoint Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, Judges of the ſupreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whoſe appointments are not herein otherwiſe provided for, and which ſhall be eſtabliſhed by law. But the Congreſs may by law veſt the appointment of ſuch inferior officers, as they think proper, in the Preſident alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The Preſident ſhall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the receſs of the Senate, by granting commiſſions, which ſhall expire at the end of their next ſeſſion.

Sect. 3. He ſhall from time to time give to the Congreſs information of the ſtate of the union, and recommend to their conſideration ſuch meaſures as he ſhall judge neceſſary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occaſions, convene both Houſes, or either of them, and in caſe of diſagreement between them, with reſpect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to ſuch time as he ſhall think proper; he ſhall receive Ambaſſadors and other public Miniſters; he ſhall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and ſhall commiſſion all the officers of the United States.

Sect. 4. The Preſident, Vice-Preſident and all civil officers of the United States, ſhall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treaſon, bribery, or other high crimes and miſdemeanors.

ARTICLE III.

Sect. 1. The judicial power of the United States ſhall be veſted in one ſupreme court, and in ſuch inferior courts as the Congreſs may from time to time ordain and eſtabliſh. The judges, both of the ſupreme and inferior courts, ſhall hold their offices during good behaviour, and ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for their ſervices, a compenſation, which ſhall not be diminiſhed during their continuance in office.

Sect. 2. The judicial power ſhall extend to all caſes in law and equity, ariſing under this conſtitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under their authority; to all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls; to all caſes of Admiralty and Maritime Juriſdiction; to controverſies to which the United States ſhall be a party; to controverſies between two or more ſtates, between a ſtate and citizens of another ſtate, between citizens of different ſtates, between citizens of the ſame ſtate claiming lands under grants of different ſtates, and between a ſtate, or the citizens thereof, and foreign ſtates, citizens or ſubjects.

In all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, and thoſe in which a ſtate ſhall be party, the ſupreme court ſhall have original juriſdiction. In all the other caſes before mentioned, the ſupreme court ſhall have appellate juriſdiction, both as to law and fact, with ſuch exceptions, and under ſuch regulations, as the Congreſs ſhall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in caſes of impeachment, ſhall be by jury; and ſuch trial ſhall be held in the ſtate where the ſaid crimes ſhall have been committed; but when not committed within any ſtate, the trial ſhall be at ſuch place or places as the Congreſs may by law have directed.

Sect. 3. Treaſon againſt the United States ſhall conſiſt only in levying war againſt them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No perſon ſhall be convicted of treaſon, unleſs on the teſtimony of two witneſſes to the ſame overt act, or on confeſſion in open court.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to declare the puniſhment of treaſon, but no attainder of treaſon ſhall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the perſon attainted.

ARTICLE IV.

Sect. 1. Full faith and credit ſhall be given in each ſtate to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other ſtate. And the Congreſs may by general laws preſcribe the manner in which ſuch acts, records and proceedings ſhall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sect. 2. The citizens of each ſtate ſhall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the ſeveral ſtates.

A perſon charged in any ſtate with treaſon, felony, or other crime, who ſhall flee from juſtice, and be found in another ſtate, ſhall, on demand of the executive authority of the ſtate from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the ſtate having juriſdiction of the crime.

No perſon held to ſervice or labour in one ſtate, under the laws thereof, eſcaping into another, ſhall, in conſequence of any law or regulation therein, be diſcharged from ſuch ſervice or labour, but ſhall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom ſuch ſervice or labour may be due.

Sect. 3. New ſtates may be admitted by the Congreſs into this union; but no new ſtate ſhall be formed or erected within the juriſdiction of any other ſtate; nor any ſtate be formed by the junction of two or more ſtates, or parts of ſtates, without the conſent of the legiſlatures of the ſtates concerned, as well as of the Congreſs.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to diſpoſe of and make all needful rules and regulations reſpecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this conſtitution ſhall be ſo conſtrued as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular ſtate.

Sect. 4. The United States ſhall guarantee to every ſtate in this union a Republican form of government, and ſhall protect each of them againſt invaſion; and on application of the legiſlature, or of the executive (when the legiſlature cannot be convened) againſt domeſtic violence.

ARTICLE V.

The Congreſs, whenever two thirds of both houſes ſhall deem it neceſſary, ſhall propoſe amendments to this conſtitution, or, on the application of the legiſlatures of two thirds of the ſeveral ſtates, ſhall call a convention for propoſing amendments, which, in either caſe, ſhall be valid to all intents and purpoſes, as part of this conſtitution, when ratified by the legiſlatures of three fourths of the ſeveral ſtates, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be propoſed by the Congreſs: Provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight ſhall in any manner affect the firſt and fourth clauſes in the ninth ſection of the firſt article; and that no ſtate, without its conſent, ſhall be deprived of its equal ſuffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be as valid againſt the United States under this conſtitution, as under the confederation.

This conſtitution, and the laws of the United States which ſhall be made in purſuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under the authority of the United States, ſhall be the ſupreme law of the land; and the judges in every ſtate ſhall be bound thereby, any thing in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Senators and Repreſentatives before mentioned, and the members of the ſeveral ſtate legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, ſhall be bound, by oath or affirmation, to ſupport this conſtitution; but no religious teſt ſhall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public truſt under the United States.

ARTICLE VII.

The ratification of the conventions of nine ſtates ſhall be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of this conſtitution between the ſtates ſo ratifying the ſame.

DONE in Convention, by the unanimous conſent of the ſtates preſent, the ſeventeenth day of September, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, and of the Independence of the United States of* America *the twelfth.*

In witneſs whereof, we have hereunto ſubſcribed our names,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident,*
And Deputy from VIRGINIA.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.
John Langdon,
Nicholas Gilman.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Nathaniel Gorham,
Rufus King.

CONNECTICUT.
William Samuel Johnſon,
Roger Sherman.

NEW-YORK.
Alexander Hamilton.

NEW-JERSEY.
William Livingſton,
David Brearly,
William Paterſon,
Jonathan Dayton.

PENNSYLVANIA.
Benjamin Franklin,
Thomas Mifflin,
Robert Morris,
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jared Ingerſoll,
James Wilſon,
Gouverneur Morris.

DELAWARE.
George Read,
Gunning Bedford, junior,
John Dickinſon,
Richard Baſſett,
Jacob Broom.

MARYLAND.
James M'Henry,
Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer,
Daniel Carrol.

VIRGINIA.
John Blair,
James Maddiſon, junior.

NORTH-CAROLINA.
William Blount,
Richard Dobbs Spaight,
Hugh Williamſon.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.
John Rutledge,
Charles Coteſworth Pinckney,
Charles Pinckney,
Pierce Butler.

GEORGIA.
William Few,
Abraham Baldwin.

Atteſt, WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION, *Monday, September* 17th, 1787.

PRESENT.

The States of New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut, *Mr.* HAMILTON *from* New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina *and* Georgia:

RESOLVED,

THAT the preceding Conſtitution be laid before the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it ſhould afterwards be ſubmitted to a Convention of Delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its Legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification; and that each Convention aſſenting to, and ratifying the ſame, ſhould give notice thereof to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as ſoon as the Conventions of nine ſtates ſhall have ratified this Conſtitution, the United States in Congreſs aſſembled ſhould fix a day on which Electors ſhall be appointed by the ſtates which ſhall have ratified the ſame, and a day on which the Electors ſhould aſſemble to vote for the Preſident, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this Conſtitution. That after ſuch publication the Electors ſhould be appointed, and the Senators and Repreſentatives elected; that the Electors ſhould meet on the day fixed for the election of the Preſident, and ſhould tranſmit their votes, certified, ſigned, ſealed and directed, as the Conſtitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled; that the Senators and Repreſentatives ſhould convene at the time and place aſſigned; that the Senators ſhould appoint a Preſident of the Senate, for the ſole purpoſe of receiving, opening and counting the votes for Preſident; and, that after he ſhall be choſen, the Congreſs, together with the Preſident, ſhould, without delay, proceed to execute this Conſtitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident.*

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION, *September* 17th, 1787.

SIR,

WE have now the honor to ſubmit to the conſideration of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, that Conſtitution, which has appeared to us the moſt adviſeable.

The friends of our country have long ſeen and deſired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correſpondent executive and judicial authorities, ſhould be fully and effectually veſted in the general government of the Union: but the impropriety of delegating ſuch extenſive truſt to one body of men is evident—Hence reſults the neceſſity of a different organization.

It is obviouſly impracticable in the Fœderal Government of theſe ſtates, to ſecure all rights of independent ſovereignty to each, and yet provide for the intereſt and ſafety of all.—Individuals entering into ſociety muſt give up a ſhare of liberty, to preſerve the reſt. The magnitude of the ſacrifice muſt depend as well on ſituation and circumſtance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with preciſion the line between thoſe rights which muſt be ſurrendered, and thoſe which may be reſerved; and on the preſent occaſion this difficulty was encreaſed by a difference among the ſeveral ſtates, as to their ſituation, extent, habits, and particular intereſts.

In all our deliberations on this ſubject we kept ſteadily in our view, that which appears to us the greateſt intereſt of every true *American*, the conſolidation of our union, in which is involved our proſperity, felicity, ſafety, perhaps our national exiſtence. This important conſideration, ſeriouſly and deeply impreſſed on our minds, led each ſtate in the Convention to be leſs rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwiſe expected; and thus the Conſtitution which we now preſent is the reſult of a ſpirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and conceſſion, which the peculiarity of our political ſituation rendered indiſpenſable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every ſtate is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtleſs conſider, that had her intereſts been alone conſulted, the conſequences might have been particularly diſagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reaſonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the laſting welfare of that country, ſo dear to us all, and ſecure her freedom and happineſs, is our moſt ardent wiſh.

With great reſpect,
We have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your Excellency's moſt
Obedient and humble Servants,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident.*

By unanimous Order of the Convention.

His Excellency
The PRESIDENT *of* CONGRESS.

His Excellency the Preſident of the ſtate then addreſſed the Speaker in the words following, *viz.*

SIR,

YOUR Delegates in Convention conceive it their duty, to ſubmit in a more particular manner to the conſideration of this Houſe, that part of the Conſtitution juſt now read, which confers on the Congreſs excluſive legiſlation over ſuch diſtrict as may become the ſeat of Government of the United States. Perhaps it would be adviſeable to paſs a law, granting the juriſdiction over any place in *Pennſylvania,* not exceeding ten miles ſquare, which, with the conſent of the inhabitants, the Congreſs might chuſe for their reſidence. We think, Sir, that ſuch a meaſure might poſſibly tend to fix their choice within the bounds of this commonwealth, and thereby eſſentially benefit the citizens of *Pennſylvania.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 19, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 19, 1787.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of tranſmitting the incloſed letter from the Preſident of Congreſs, to be laid before the General Aſſembly.

I am, SIR,
With great reſpect,
Your obedient and humble ſervant,

B. FRANKLIN.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the letter incloſed was alſo read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the freemen of the diſtrict comprehending the townſhips of *Oxford, Lower-Dublin, Moreland* and *Byberry,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition from divers inhabitants of the ſame diſtrict, read *March* 23d laſt, and praying the place for holding their general elections may not be altered.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the lower end of *York* county was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act to diſcharge and annul the declaration of truſt relating to the* Scots *Preſbyterian church in the city of* Philadelphia, *ſo far as the ſaid inſtrument incumbers the ſame church with ſubjection to foreign juriſdiction,*" and praying the ſame may be repealed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A tranſcript, containing a ſtatement of the taxes in the year 1787, ſigned by the Treaſurer of the State, was preſented to the chair, and read.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in he county of* York, *into a borough, for regulating*

“ *the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares,* “ *ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for* “ *erecting part of* Bedford *county into a ſeparate county*,” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Smith*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *George Logan*,
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *James Moore*,
10 *Richard Willing*,
11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *Samuel Evans*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *Townſend Whelen*,
15 *Alexander Lowrey*,
16 *Adam Hubley*,
17 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
18 *Joſeph Work*,
19 *George Roſs*,
20 *James Clemſon*,
21 *David M‘Conaughy*,
22 *Michael Schmyſer*,
23 *David M‘Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Daniel Clymer*,
26 *John Piper*,
27 *John Canon*,
28 *Joſeph Powell*,
29 *James Barr*,
30 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
31 *Charles Moore*,
32 *Samuel Wheeler*,
33 *James Hockley*,
34 *Jacob Reiff*,
35 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *David Davis*,
10 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
11 *Robert Brown*,
12 *Peter Burkhalter*,
13 *Frederick Antes*,
14 *Samuel Dale*,
15 *William Findley*,
16 *Alexander Wright*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *James Alliſon*,
20 *Theophilus Philips*,
21 *John Gilchreeſt*,
22 *Abraham Smith*,
23 *James M‘Calmont*,
24 *Robert Clark*,
25 *Jacob Miley*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday,

Thurſday, September 20, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *Timothy Pickering*, Eſquire, clerk of the county of *Luzerne*, was read, praying, in behalf and by order of the Juſtices of the ſaid county, that a law may be enacted, authoriſing the Sheriff and other officers of Juſtice in the ſaid county to convey their priſoners to the gaols of the counties of *Northampton* and *Northumberland*, or either of them, until a gaol ſhall be erected within the county of *Luzerne*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley*, and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Henry Pawling* was read, ſtating, that he is likely to become a conſiderable ſufferer in conſequence of the "*Act for aſcertaining and* "*confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them* "*claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein men*"*tioned,*" and praying redreſs in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Thomas Williams*, *Daniel Major* and *Charles Buſſelot*, inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, were read, praying to be releaſed from further confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler*, to report thereon.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Penns*, *Buffaloe*, *Waſhington* and *White Deer*, in the county of *Northumberland*, were read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections in a more central part of their reſpective diſtricts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 20, 1787.

SIR,

COUNCIL being of opinion that the incloſed letter from the commiſſioners now at *Wilkeſbarre* contains information that requires immediate conſideration, have ordered that it be tranſmitted to the honorable the General Aſſembly.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient and very humble Servant,

CHARLES BIDDLE, *Vice-Preſident.*

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the letter incloſed was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Richard Wells*, read *September* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The tranſcript, containing a ſtatement of the taxes in the year 1787, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Calmont*, Mr. *C. Moore* and Mr. *Wheeler*, and that they be inſtructed to inſpect into the ſtate of the treaſury, and report thereon.

The committee appointed *March* 22d, on the petition of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Cumru*, in the county of *Berks*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into a borough, for regu*"*lating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons,* "*ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein* "*mentioned*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for eſta*"*bliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lan"caſter," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for erecting part of* Bedford *county into a ſeparate county.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of Saint* John, *at* York-town.

An ACT *to divide* Waſhington *county into election diſtricts.*

Purſuant to leave granted for that purpoſe, a member, in his place, read a bill, entituled "*An Act to continue the act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "An "Act for opening, and better amending and keeping in repair the public "roads and highways within this province;" and having obtained leave, preſented the ſame to the chair, when it was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 21, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Raſor*, a creditor of *Daniel Major*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, containing his objections to releaſing the ſaid *Major* from his impriſonment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed yeſterday on ſaid *Major*'s petition, to make report thereon.

Petitions from *Thomas D. Smith*, *Andrew Henderſon* and *William Purdy* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter of Wills, &c. and Recorder of Deeds, for the county of *Huntingdon*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Tyrone* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying that thoſe who hold land by improvement rights may be entitled to elect juſtices of the peace, equally with freeholders.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of *Bedford* county was read, praying that the mere occupants of lands may not be compelled to pay arrears of taxes due before the year 1786, on lands they may have inadvertently ſettled upon.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *D. Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *G. Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned," read the ſecond time *February* 23d laſt, and that it be the order for that day.

Ordered further, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants; and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk," read *March* 19th laſt, and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *D. Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and enliſting men required from the ſeveral companies of militia, by an act, entituled* "An Act for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual defence of this ſtate, and for compelling ſuch as have received monies for that purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame," read the ſecond time *March* 28th laſt, and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed for conſideration the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed for conſideration the bill, entituled "*An Act to declare and regulate eſcheats*," poſtponed *September* 13th inſtant; and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed fof conſideration the bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," read the ſecond time *December* 15th laſt; and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate a religious chriſtian ſociety of the town of* Pittſburgh, *in the county of* Weſtmoreland, *at this time under the paſtoral care of the Reverend* Samuel Barr," read the ſecond time *December* 14th laſt, was read the third time, and the ſeveral paragraphs of the ſame fully debated.

It was then moved by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Whitehill*,

To ſtrike out from the title of the ſaid bill, the words " *a religious chriſtian* " *ſociety*," and in lieu thereof to inſert, " *the Preſbyterian congregation.*"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendment?*"

It was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the ſaid bill be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for building a court-houſe and priſon at* Hanna's-town, *in the county of* Weſtmoreland," read the ſecond time *March* 26th laſt, was read the third time.

It was moved by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Smith*,

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Hubley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *George Clymer*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *George Logan*,
7 *Samuel Foulke*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Richard Willing*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
19 *Michael Schmyſer*,
20 *David M'Clellan*,
21 *Joſeph Lilley*,
22 *Robert Whitehill*,
23 *Thomas Kennedy*,
24 *David Mitchell*,

YEAS.

25 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
26 *Philip Kreemer*,
27 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
28 *David Davis*,
29 *Daniel Clymer*,
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
32 *Robert Brown*,
33 *Peter Burkhalter*,
34 *John Canon*,
35 *Joſeph Powell*,
36 *Frederick Antes*,
37 *Alexander Wright*,
38 *John Flenniken*,
39 *James Alliſon*,
40 *Theophilus Philips*,
41 *John Gilchreeſt*,
42 *Abraham Smith*,
43 *Charles Moore*,
44 *James Hockley*,
45 *Jacob Reiff*,
46 *Robert Clark*,
47 *Jacob Miley*,
48 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Alexander Lowrey*,
2 *Joſeph Work*,
3 *George Roſs*,
4 *James Clemſon*,
5 *David M'Conaughy*,
6 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

7 *Samuel Dale*,
8 *William Findley*,
9 *James Barr*,
10 *John M'Dowell*,
11 *James M'Calmont*,
12 *Samuel Wheeler*.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 22, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Carpenter*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled “*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia,” and that it be the order for that day.

The committee appointed *September* 20th, on the letter from *Timothy Pickering*, Eſquire, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom were referred the letters from *Timothy Pickering*, *William Montgomery* and *Stephen Balliot*, Eſquires, report——

That as it appears by the letter from *Timothy Pickering*, Eſq; and the Juſtices of the peace for the county of *Luzerne*, that there is no gaol at preſent in ſaid county, wherein to confine perſons ſubject and liable to confinement; therefore they pray this Houſe to permit them to ſend their priſoners to be confined in the gaols of *Northampton* or *Northumberland* counties.

And as it appears by a ſupplement to the act, entituled “*An Act for erecting the northern part of the county of* Northumberland *into a ſeparate county*,” that the line from the mouth of *Neſcopeck* ſhall be run northweſtwardly, which term being rather indefinite: Therefore offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to enable the Juſtices of the peace and the Sheriff of the county of *Luzerne* to confine their priſoners in the gaols of *Northampton* or *Northumberland* counties, and to enable them to hold the enſuing election.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to determine the line dividing the counties of *Northumberland* and *Luzerne*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Brown*, Mr. *Dale*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Hockley*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to continue the act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “An Act for opening, and better amending and keeping in repair the public roads and highways within this province,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the committee appointed *September* 11th, on the petition of divers perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne*, be inſtructed to confer with the Supreme Executive Council thereon.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “*An Act to empower certain members of the corporation of the Rector, Church Wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of* Chriſt-church *and Saint* Peter*'s church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *to ſell a certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties;” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues*,” and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs* "Coneſtogoe *creek, in the county of* Lancaſter," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 24, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 250 inhabitants of *Germantown*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, were preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The PETITION *and* DECLARATION *of the Citizens of* Germantown,

Reſpectfully ſhew,

THAT your Petitioners have ſeen, with great Pleaſure, the propoſed Conſtitution of the United States, and as they conceive it to be wiſely calculated to form a perfect Union of the States, as well as to ſecure to themſelves and Poſterity the Bleſſings of Peace, Liberty and Safety, they have taken this Method of expreſſing their earneſt Deſires that the ſaid Conſtitution may be adopted, as ſpeedily as poſſible, by the State of *Pennſylvania*, in the Manner recommended by the Reſolution of the late Honorable Convention.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* was read, ſetting forth, that the *Tulpehockon* road to *Sunbury*, opened by *Ennion Williams* with money raiſed by ſubſcription, has been uſed for ſeveral years with great convenience, but was much injured by the late remarkable freſhes, and requires ſome repairs, as well as bridges to be built; that the inhabitants of part of the county through which it paſſes cannot afford to make the neceſſary repairs; therefore praying this Houſe to grant them ſome relief and aſſiſtance.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William M'Dougall* was read, referring to his memorial read in a former Houſe, and praying the ſame may be taken into immediate conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice*, and others.

The petition of *Michael Eberle*, read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Petitions from 420 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirm*" *ing to certain perſons, called* Connecticut *claimants, the lands by them claimed* "*within*

" *within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and praying the ſame may be repealed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Brown* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Will,*

Reſolved, That three thouſand copies of the conſtitution for the government of the United States, recommended by the late honorable Convention, be printed in the *Engliſh* language, and five hundred copies thereof in the *German,* to be diſtributed throughout this ſtate, for the information of the inhabitants thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Kreemer* be a committee, to procure a tranſlation of the ſaid conſtitution into the *German* language.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the town of* Waſhington.

An ACT *for erecting the town of* York, *in the county of* York, *into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 25, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Humes,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of *Abraham Lukens,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 13th, on the petition of the freemen of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an* " *act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs " of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark,* for making the " ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and " for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may " hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to appoint* " *commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, " *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accommodation of* " *the inhabitants, and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid di-*

"*ſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk," was reac the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives "of the Freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſem-"bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That
" be and they are appointed commiſſioners for the purpoſes "in this act contained; and they, or any three of them, ſhall have full power "and authority to do and perform all and every the matters and things, here-"in mentioned and contained by the commiſſioners to be performed; and "that in caſe of the death, reſignation or inability of any or either of the "ſaid commiſſioners, it ſhall and may be lawful for the Supreme Executive "Council of this commonwealth to appoint another or other proper and ju-"dicious perſon or perſons to ſupply his or their places from time to time, "until the end of this act ſhall be fully anſwered, which perſon or perſons ſo "to be appointed ſhall have the ſame powers as if he or they were named in "this act."

It was moved by Mr. *Robinſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons*,

To fill up the blank with the names of "*Francis Gurney*, *Richard Wells*, *Preſley Blackiſton*, *Thomas Shields* and *Gunning Bedford*."

And on the queſtion,— "*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *James Moore*,
11 *Richard Willing*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,

YEAS.

17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *George Roſs*,
21 *James Clemſon*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *Michael Schmyſer*,
24 *David M'Clellan*,
25 *Joſeph Lilley*,
26 *Philip Kreemer*,
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
28 *Charles Moore*,
29 *James Hockley*,
30 *Jacob Reiff*,
31 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
7 *David Davis*,
8 *Daniel Clymer*,

NAYS.

9 *Robert Brown*,
10 *Peter Burkhalter*,
11 *John Piper*,
12 *John Canon*,
13 *Joſeph Powell*,
14 *Frederick Antes*,
15 *Samuel Dale*,
16 *William Findley*,

NAYS.
17 *James Barr,*
18 *Alexander Wright,*
19 *John M'Dowell,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *James Alliſon,*
22 *Theophilus Philips,*

NAYS.
23 *John Gilchreeſt,*
24 *Abraham Smith,*
25 *James M'Calmont,*
26 *Samuel Wheeler,*
27 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative, and the clauſe agreed to.

And during debate on the fifth clauſe it was moved and ſeconded, to adjourn.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 26, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 249 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Germantown, Oxford* and *Lower Dublin,* in the county of *Philadelphia,* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *September* 24th from 250 inhabitants of *Germantown.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the wardens of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the* "*plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſt-*"*ern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," and praying the ſame may not be enacted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants reſiding on the weſt ſide of *Schuylkill* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the* "*ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuyl-"kill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," may be enacted.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey,*

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for electing a Regiſter for the Probate of Wills and granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Huntingdon,* and that the nomination continue until then.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* "Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accom-*"*modation of the inhabitants, and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through* "*the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the ſaid Commiſſioners ſhall be entitled to draw orders on the collectors of the road tax for the ſaid diſtricts and townſhips reſpectively, for ſuch proportionable parts of the expences and allowances to them accruing, as in the judgement of the ſaid Commiſſioners the ſaid townſhips and diſtricts ought reaſonably to pay; and the ſeveral collectors of the road taxes in and for the ſaid diſtrict and townſhips are hereby reſpectively enjoined and required to pay the amount of ſuch orders;

and the ſame ſhall be allowed to the ſaid collectors in the ſettlements of their accounts."

It was moved by Mr. *Robinſon*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wheeler*,

To inſert, after the words "*That the ſaid Commiſſioners*," the words, "*having firſt ſettled their accounts with one of the Juſtices of the Peace elected in the diſtrict, conſiſting of the diſtrict of* Southwark *and townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk."

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the amendment ?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *D. Clymer* and Mr. *Kreemer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
2 *George Clymer*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *Iſaac Gray*,
5 *William Robinſon*, junior,
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Willing*,
14 *Robert Ralſton*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,

YEAS.

16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *George Roſs*,
21 *James Clemſon*,
22 *David M'Conaughy*,
23 *Michael Schmyſer*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
26 *John Canon*,
27 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
28 *Charles Moore*,
29 *Samuel Wheeler*,
30 *James Hockley*.

NAYS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Richard Thomas*,
3 *David M'Clellan*,
4 *Robert Whitehill*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Philip Kreemer*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *David Davis*,
10 *Daniel Clymer*,
11 *Peter Burkhalter*,
12 *John Piper*,
13 *Joſeph Powell*,
14 *Frederick Antes*,

NAYS.

15 *Samuel Dale*,
16 *William Findley*,
17 *James Barr*,
18 *Alexander Wright*,
19 *John M'Dowell*,
20 *John Flenniken*,
21 *James Alliſon*,
22 *Theophilus Philips*,
23 *John Gilchreeſt*,
24 *Abraham Smith*,
25 *James M'Calmont*,
26 *Jacob Reiff*,
27 *Robert Clark*,
28 *John Carſon*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “*An Act for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and enliſting men required from the ſeveral companies of militia, by an act, entituled* “An Act for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual defence of this ſtate,” *and for compelling ſuch as have received monies for that purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame,*” was read the third time, and in part debated.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia,” was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-Office, and to aſcertain and provide for the ſalary of the Judge of Admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from 184 inhabitants of the county of *Bedford*, weſtward of the *Allegheney* mountain, was read, praying that part of the ſaid county may be erected into a ſeparate county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *James M‘Lene*, Eſquire, in behalf of *Lazarus M‘Lene*, was read, praying that the ſaid *Lazarus* may be appointed Regiſter of Wills, *&c.* and Recorder of Deeds, for the county of *Huntingdon*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 3681 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and townſhips of the *Northern Liberties*, *Moyamenſing*, *Paſſyunk*, *&c.* in the county of *Philadelphia*, were read, of a ſimilar tenor with the petition of 250 inhabitants of *Germantown*, read *September* 24th.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of *Humphrey Fullerton*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 14th, to viſit the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 20th, to inſpect the ſtate of the Treaſury, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 11th, on the petition of divers non-reſident owners of land in the county of *Luzerne*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An Act to enable the Sheriff and Juſtices of the Peace for the county of* Luzerne

" *to confine priſoners in the common gaol of the county of* Northampton, *and to* " *empower the Commiſſioners to run the line from the mouth of* Neſcopeck *creek,* " *dividing the county of* Northumberland *from the county of* Luzerne, *and for* " *other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the Probate of Wills and granting Letters of Adminiſtration, and Recorder of Deeds, in and for the county of *Huntingdon,* and, the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Andrew Henderſon,* Eſquire, was duly elected.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *regulating chimney-ſweepers within the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* " Southwark, *and townſhip of the* Northern Liberties, *in the county of* Philadelphia;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act for* " *compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and enliſting men required* " *from the ſeveral companies of militia, by an act, entituled* " An Act for the " greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual defence of " this ſtate," *and for compelling ſuch as have received monies for that purpoſe* " *to account for and pay the ſame;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to continue the act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act for opening, and better amending and keeping in repair the " public roads and highways within this province," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 28, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *James Long,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Wheeler,* to report thereon.

Petitions from 130 inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Southwark,* and the townſhip of the *Northern Liberties,* and of the Grand Jury and others, inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery,* were read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe preſented *September* 24th, from 250 of the inhabitants of *Germantown.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Smith* be a committee, to inſpect the files of this Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to be recommended to the ſucceeding Aſſembly.

The committee appointed on the petitions of *Daniel Vanderſlice,* and others, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to enable the Sheriff and Juſtices of the Peace* “ *for the county of* Luzerne *to confine priſoners in the common gaol of the county* “ *of* Northampton, *and to empower the commiſſioners to run the line from the* “ *mouth of* Neſcopeck *creek, dividing the county of* Northumberland *from the* “ *county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*” was read the third time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

“ And whereas, by reaſon of the particular ſituation of the county now erected into the county of *Luzerne*, there have been no aſſeſſments made by the commiſſioners, and therefore returns of the taxable inhabitants therein cannot be made to the judges of election, whereby doubts may ariſe, whether the ſaid Judges can hold the election according to law: For remedy whereof, be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That the election which ſhall be made in the county of *Luzerne*, in purſuance of the aforeſaid ſupplementary act, ſhall be deemed valid to all intents and purpoſes, any law, uſage or cuſtom to the contrary notwithſtanding: Provided, That in all future elections which ſhall be holden in the ſaid county of *Luzerne*, after the enſuing general election, the ſame rules ſhall be obſerved, as have been or ſhall be preſcribed for the regulation of the elections in the other counties of this commonwealth.”

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Whitehill* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *George Clymer*,
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Samuel Foulke*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Richard Willing*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Emanuel Carpenter*,
20 *Joſeph Work*,
21 *George Roſs*,

YEAS.

22 *James Clemſon*,
23 *David M‘Conaughy*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *David M‘Clellan*,
26 *Joſeph Lilley*,
27 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
28 *Philip Kreemer*,
29 *Daniel Clymer*,
30 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
31 *Robert Brown*,
32 *Peter Burkhalter*,
33 *John Canon*,
34 *Joſeph Powell*,
35 *Frederick Antes*,
36 *Hugh H. Brackenridge*,
37 *Charles Moore*,
38 *Samuel Wheeler*,
39 *James Hockley*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *John Carſon*.

NAYS.

1 *Iſaac Gray*,
2 *James Moore*,
3 *Robert Whitehill*,
4 *Thomas Kennedy*,

NAYS.

5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
7 *David Davis*,
8 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

9 *Samuel Dale,*
10 *William Findley,*
11 *James Barr,*
12 *Alexander Wright,*
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Alliſon,*

NAYS.

15 *Theophilus Philips,*
16 *John Gilchreeſt,*
17 *Abraham Smith,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Robert Clark,*
20 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A motion was made by Mr. *G. Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop,* in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas the Convention of Deputies from the ſeveral ſtates compoſing the union, lately held in this city, have publiſhed a conſtitution for the future government of the United States, to be ſubmitted to Conventions of Deputies choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification: And whereas it is the ſenſe of great numbers of the good people of this ſtate, already ſignified in petitions and declarations to this Houſe, that the earlieſt ſteps ſhould be taken to aſſemble a Convention within the ſtate, for the purpoſe of deliberating and determining on the ſaid conſtitution:

Reſolved, That it be recommended to ſuch of the inhabitants of the ſtate as are entitled to vote for Repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly, that they chuſe ſuitable perſons to ſerve as Deputies in a ſtate Convention, for the purpoſe herein before mentioned; that is, for the city of *Philadelphia* and the counties reſpectively, the ſame number of Deputies that each is entitled to of Repreſentatives in the General Aſſembly.

That the elections for Deputies as aforeſaid be held at the ſeveral places in the ſaid city and counties, as are fixed by law for holding the elections of Repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly, and that they be conducted under the ſame officers, and according to the regulations preſcribed by law for holding the elections for ſaid Repreſentatives, and at the times herein mentioned, *viz.* For the city of *Philadelphia,* the counties of *Philadelphia, Cheſter, Bucks, Lancaſter, Berks, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Dauphin, Luzerne, York, Cumberland* and *Franklin,* on the day of the general election of Repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly. For the counties of *Bedford, Huntingdon, Weſtmoreland, Fayette* and *Waſhington,* on the day of *October.*

That the perſons ſo elected to ſerve in Convention ſhall aſſemble on the laſt day of *November,* at the State-Houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia.*

That the propoſition ſubmitted to this Houſe by the Deputies of *Pennſylvania* in the General Convention of the States, of ceding to the United States a diſtrict of country within this ſtate, for the ſeat of the General Government, and for the excluſive legiſlation of Congreſs, be particularly recommended to the conſideration of the Convention.

That it be recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly, to provide for the payment of any extraordinary expences which may be incurred by holding the ſaid elections of Deputies.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the firſt reſolution?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *D. Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *George Clymer,*
4 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
5 *Iſaac Gray,*
6 *William Robinſon,* junior,
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Willing,*
15 *Robert Ralſton,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Thomas,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*

YEAS.

23 *George Roſs,*
24 *James Clemſon,*
25 *David M‘Conaughy,*
26 *Michael Schmyſer,*
27 *David M‘Clellan,*
28 *Joſeph Lilley,*
29 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
30 *Philip Kreemer,*
31 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
32 *David Davis,*
33 *Daniel Clymer,*
34 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
35 *Peter Burkhalter,*
36 *John Canon,*
37 *Frederick Antes,*
38 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
39 *Charles Moore,*
40 *Samuel Wheeler,*
41 *James Hockley.*
42 *Jacob Reiff,*
43 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Robert Whitehill,*
2 *Thomas Kennedy,*
3 *David Mitchell,*
4 *Robert Brown,*
5 *John Piper,*
6 *Joſeph Powell,*
7 *Samuel Dale,*
8 *William Findley,*
9 *James Barr,*
10 *Alexander Wright,*

NAYS.

11 *John M‘Dowell,*
12 *John Flenniken,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Theophilus Philips,*
15 *John Gilchreeſt,*
16 *Abraham Smith,*
17 *James M‘Calmont,*
18 *Robert Clark,*
19 *Jacob Miley.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid motion be poſtponed.

Ajourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Friday, September 28, 1787. P. M.

Mr. Speaker with forty-four members met, and the roll being called, it appeared that the following members were abſent, *viz.* Mr. *Whitehill,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Mitchell,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Powell,* Mr. *Dale,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Barr,* Mr. *Wright,* Mr. *M‘Dowell,* Mr. *Flenniken,* Mr. *Alliſon,* Mr.

Philips, Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *M‘Calmont*, Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Antes* and Mr. *Miley*; and there not being a quorum,

Ordered, That the Serjeant at Arms collect the abſent members.

The Speaker left the chair for half an hour.

The Serjeant at Arms having returned, the Speaker reſumed the chair, and the Serjeant at Arms reported, that he had ſeen all the abſent members at the houſe of *Alexander Boyd* (except Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Smith*;) that he informed them, the Speaker and forty-four members being met, and not forming a quorum, he was directed to collect the abſent members, and in obedience to his orders required them to attend. Mr. *Whitehill* replied, there was no Houſe; and that they, the members to whom his meſſage was directed, had not made up their minds, and for that reaſon would not attend.

It was moved and ſeconded, to adjourn.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *September* 29, 1787. A. M.

Mr. Speaker with forty-three members met, and the roll having been called, it appeared there was no quorum.

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Serjeant at Arms require the members abſenting themſelves to attend, and that the Aſſiſtant Clerk accompany the Serjeant.

The Speaker left the chair for a ſhort time.

The Aſſiſtant Clerk and Serjeant at Arms being returned, the Aſſiſtant Clerk reported, they had been to the houſe of Major *Alexander Boyd*; that he there ſaw Mr. *M‘Calmont* and Mr. *Miley*, informed them of the reſolution of Congreſs dated *September* 28th inſtant, and publiſhed this day, which Mr. *M‘Calmont* ſaid he had ſeen or heard of. The Aſſiſtant Clerk told the two members of his inſtruction, requiring them to attend; they anſwered, they would not attend. Before he got to *Boyd*'s houſe, he ſaw Mr. *Piper* and ſome other members, does not recollect who, and followed them to the corner of *Arch* and *Seventh-ſtreets*, then ſaw Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Barr*, walking towards *Market-ſtreet*. Mr. *Findley* looked round, and, perceiving him, mended his pace, and turned the corner of *Seventh* down *Market-ſtreet*, but before he could arrive at the corner of *Seventh-ſtreet*, loſt ſight of Mr. *Findley*. He then informed Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Barr* of the reſolution of Congreſs before mentioned, and told them the Speaker and members preſent had ſent for them; they ſaid they would not attend. From thence he proceeded to the lodgings of Mr. *Whitehill*, and there ſaw a woman, who ſaid Mr. *Whitehill* was above ſtairs; ſhe went up, and returning, ſaid he was not at home. At Mr. *Whitehill*'s lodgings he ſaw Mr. *Mitchell*, and acquainted him with his meſſage; Mr. *Mitchell* anſwered, he would not attend. He alſo ſaw Mr. *M‘Dowell*, and acquainted him with the order requiring the attendance of members abſenting themſelves, who ſaid he would conſider, and do what was juſt. He found Mr. *Dale* and Mr. *Antes* at their lodgings, and, after informing them as he had done the others, Mr. *Dale* ſaid he would not attend, as he was going out of town. Mr. *Antes* ſaid the reſolve of Congreſs was not come officially, therefore he would not attend. He likewiſe ſaw Mr. *Clark*, and having acquainted him in the ſame way with the reſt, he anſwered he would not attend.

Mr. *M‘Calmont* and Mr. *Miley* appeared in the Aſſembly-Chamber, and there being a quorum, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the remainder of the motion poſtponed yeſterday.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the perſons ſo elected to ſerve in Convention ſhall aſſemble on the third *Tueſday* of *November*, at the State-Houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia.*

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Calmont,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lowrey,*

To ſtrike out the words “ *at the State-Houſe, in the city of* Philadelphia,” and in lieu thereof to inſert, “ *at the Court-Houſe, in the borough of* Lan-“ caſter.”

And on the queſtion,— “ *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Calmont* and Mr. *D. Clymer,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Alexander Lowrey,*
2 *Adam Hubley,*
3 *Emanuel Carpenter,*
4 *Joſeph Work,*
5 *George Roſs,*
6 *James Clemſon,*
7 *David M‘Conaughy,*
8 *Michael Schmyſer,*

YEAS.

9 *David M‘Clellan,*
10 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
11 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
12 *John Canon,*
13 *James M‘Calmont,*
14 *Jacob Miley,*
15 *John Carſon.*

NAYS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *Robert Morris,*
3 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
4 *George Clymer,*
5 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
6 *Iſaac Gray,*
7 *William Robinſon,* jun.
8 *John Salter,*
9 *George Logan,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
12 *John Chapman,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Willing,*

NAYS.

16 *Robert Ralſton,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Richard Thomas,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Joſeph Lilley,*
21 *Philip Kreemer,*
22 *David Davis,*
23 *Daniel Clymer,*
24 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
25 *Peter Burkhalter,*
26 *Hugh H. Brackenridge,*
27 *Charles Moore,*
28 *Samuel Wheeler,*
29 *James Hockley,*
30 *Jacob Reiff.*

So it was carried in the negative, and the reſolution adopted.

And in debating the preamble to the motion,

It was moved by Mr. *G. Clymer* and Mr. *Brackenridge,*

To inſert, after the words “ *and ratification,*” the words, “ *And whereas* “ *Congreſs, on* Friday, *the twenty-eighth inſtant, did unanimouſly reſolve, that* “ *the ſaid conſtitution be tranſmitted to the ſeveral legiſlatures of the ſtates, to* “ *the intent aforeſaid.*”

It was carried in the affirmative, and the original motion, as amended, adopted, as follows, *viz.*

WHEREAS the Convention of Deputies from the ſeveral ſtates compoſing the union, lately held in this city, have publiſhed a conſtitution for the future government of the United States, to be ſubmitted to conventions of deputies choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification: And whereas Congreſs, on *Friday*, the twenty-eighth inſtant, did unanimouſly reſolve, that the ſaid conſtitution be tranſmitted to the ſeveral legiſlatures of the ſtates, to the intent aforeſaid: And whereas it is the ſenſe of great numbers of the good people of this ſtate, already ſignified in petitions and declarations to this Houſe, that the earlieſt ſteps ſhould be taken to aſſemble a convention within the ſtate, for the purpoſe of deliberating and determining on the ſaid conſtitution:

Reſolved, That it be recommended to ſuch of the inhabitants of the ſtate as are entitled to vote for repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly, that they chuſe ſuitable perſons to ſerve as deputies in a ſtate convention, for the purpoſe herein before mentioned; that is, for the city of *Philadelphia*, and the counties reſpectively, the ſame number of deputies that each is entitled to of repreſentatives in the General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That the elections for deputies as aforeſaid be held at the ſeveral places in the ſaid city and counties, as are fixed by law for holding the elections of repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly, and that the ſame be conducted by the officers who conduct the ſaid elections of repreſentatives, and agreeably to the rules and regulations thereof; and that the election of deputies as aforeſaid ſhall be held for the city of *Philadelphia*, and the ſeveral counties of this ſtate, on the firſt *Tueſday* of *November* next.

Reſolved, That the perſons ſo elected to ſerve in Convention ſhall aſſemble on the third *Tueſday* of *November*, at the State-Houſe, in the city of *Philadelphia*.

Reſolved, That the propoſition ſubmitted to this Houſe by the deputies of *Pennſylvania* in the General Convention of the ſtates, of ceding to the United States a diſtrict of country within this ſtate, for the ſeat of the General Government, and for the excluſive legiſlation of Congreſs, be particularly recommended to the conſideration of the Convention.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly, to make the ſame allowance to the attending members of the Convention as is made to the members of the General Aſſembly, and alſo to provide for the extraordinary expences which may be incurred by holding the ſaid elections.

Whereupon, *Reſolved*, That 3000 copies of the reſolutions which the Houſe have this day adopted, for calling a Convention on the Fœderal Conſtitution, recommended to them by Congreſs, be ſtruck off, and tranſmitted by the Clerk to the members of the city of *Philadelphia*, and the different counties of this ſtate; 2000 of ſaid copies to be in the *Engliſh*, and 1000 in the *German* language.

The committee appointed to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and to report ſuch unfiniſhed buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to recommend to the next ſucceeding General Aſſembly, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

Reſolved, That the following bills, reports and petitions, be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly, *viz.*

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the

" diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out " therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets " and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other " uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned."

The bill, entituled " *An Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the reſidue of the " donation lands, reſerving part thereof for a town on* Lake Erie, *to the uſe of " the commonwealth.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act to obtain the number of the inhabitants within " the ſtate.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for " erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia."

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within " this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities at " a reaſonable intereſt.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting the town of* Newtown *into a borough, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*"

The bill, entituled " *An Act to enable the Commiſſioners of the county of* " Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, " *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county.*"

The report on the petition of *Humphrey Fullerton.*

The report on the petition of ſundry inhabitants of *Reading*, reſpecting the election of Burgeſſes.

The report on the petition of the inhabitants of *Weſt-Cheſter.*

The report on the petition of non-reſident owners of land in *Luzerne* county.

The report on the tranſcript of taxes, paid and unpaid, from the ſtate treaſurer.

The petition of the owners of marſh meadow of *Kinſeſſing* and *Tinicum.*

The petition of *John Hills.*

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts report,——

That there is due to *Thomas Bradford*, for publiſhing bills and printing laws to the 23d of *July* laſt, *two hundred and thirty-eight pounds.*

That there is due to *Michael Billmeyer, German* printer, *ſixty-nine pounds ſixteen ſhillings.*

That there is due to *Dunlap* and *Claypoole* for printing, and for the *Pennſylvania Packet* to the 1ſt of *October* next, *thirty-one pounds eleven ſhillings and eight-pence.*

To *Thomas Lloyd*, for ſix volumes of debates, *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

And offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Thomas Bradford*, in full of his account, for *two hundred and thirty-eight pounds.*

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, in full, for *ſixty-nine pounds ſixteen ſhillings.*

In favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole*, in full, for *thirty-one pounds eleven ſhillings and eight-pence.*

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, in full, for *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

On motion, *Reſolved*, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Eſquire, for *thirty-ſix pounds*, for his ſervices as Clerk of this Houſe, including ten days allowance for compleating the buſineſs; and that the ſaid *Peter Z. Lloyd* ſettle the account of monies advanced to him for contingent expences with the Comptroller-General.

In favor of *Jacob Shallus*, Eſquire, for *thirty-ſix pounds*, for his ſervices as Aſſiſtant Clerk to this Houſe, including ten days allowance for compleating the buſineſs.

In favor of *Nicholas Weaver*, for *eighteen pounds*, for his ſervice as Serjeant at Arms, and including ten days allowance.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry*, for *eighteen pounds*, for his ſervice as Door-Keeper, and including ten days allowance.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to declare and regulate eſcheats.*

An ACT *to enable the Sheriff and Juſtices of the Peace for the county of* Luzerne *to confine priſoners in the common gaol of the county of* Northampton, *and to empower the Commiſſioners to run the line from the mouth of* Neſcopeck *creek, dividing the county of* Northumberland *from the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and enliſting men required from the ſeveral companies of militia, by an act, entituled* "An Act "for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual de- "fence of this ſtate," *and for compelling ſuch as have received monies for that "purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame.*

An ACT *to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the Land-Office, and to aſcertain and provide the ſalary for the Judge of the Admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

An ACT *for incorporating the* German *Reformed Congregation of* Frankford, *in the townſhip of* Oxford, *and county of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to continue the act of General Aſſembly, entituled* "An Act for opening, and better amending and keeping in repair the public roads and highways within this province."

An ACT *to empower certain members of the corporation of the Rector, Church Wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of* Chriſt-Church *and Saint* Peter's *church, in the city of* Philadelphia, *to ſell a certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the* Northern Liberties.

An ACT *to regulate chimney-ſweepers within the city of* Philadelphia, *the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and the townſhip of the* Northern-Liberties, *in the county of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants; and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to ſuch laws as might be enacted in the preſent ſeſſion of General Aſſembly, report that they have affixed the ſeal to the twenty-ſix following laws.

I. An ACT to eſtabliſh a public ferry over the river *Schuylkill*, near *Spring-Mill*, in the county of *Montgomery*, and veſting the right in *Peter Le Gaux*, his heirs and aſſigns.

II. An ACT to confirm and amend the charter of incorporation of the United *Swediſh Lutheran* Churches of *Wicacoa*, *Kingſeſſing* and *Upper Merion*, called *Gloria Dei*, Saint *James's* and *Chriſt-Church*.

III. An ACT to divide the county of *Franklin* into election diſtricts, and to alter the place for holding the general election in the ſixth diſtrict in the county of *Bedford*, and for making the townſhips of *Greenwood* and *Rye*, in the county of *Cumberland*, a ſixth diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding general elections.

IV. An ACT for granting unto *George Wall*, junior, the ſole and excluſive privilege of making and vending a mathematical inſtrument, by him invented, for the term of twenty-one years.

V. An ACT for the future endowment of the *Pittſburg* academy.

VI. An ACT to incorporate the *German* Lutheran congregation in the borough of *Reading*, in the county of *Berks*.

VII. An ACT to empower the Supreme Executive Council to lay out a town, and otherwiſe to apportion the lands contained in the tract of land reſerved to the uſe of the ſtate, by the act, entituled “ *An Act for the ſale of*
“ *certain lands therein mentioned, for the purpoſe of redeeming and paying off*
“ *the certificates of depreciation given to the officers and ſoldiers of the* Pennſyl-
“ vania *line, or their repreſentatives, and for appropriating certain other lands*
“ *therein mentioned for the uſe of the ſaid officers and ſoldiers, to be divided*
“ *off to them, ſeverally, at the end of the war.*”

VIII. An ACT to incorporate the upper Preſbyterian congregation of *Marſh-creek*, in the county of *York*.

IX. An ACT to repeal part of the act, entituled “ *An Act to regulate*
“ *the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds therein, and*
“ *to amend and alter the act for the better regulation of juries.*”

X. An ACT for the relief of *Paul Hauſman*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Lancaſter*.

XI. An ACT to divide *Waſhington* county into election diſtricts.

XII. An ACT to incorporate the Proteſtant Epiſcopal Church of Saint *John*, at *York-Town*.

XIII. An ACT for erecting part of *Bedford* county into a ſeparate county.

XIV. An ACT for eſtabliſhing and building a bridge acroſs *Coneſtogoe* creek, in the county of *Lancaſter*.

XV. An ACT to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the town of *Waſhington*.

XVI. An ACT for erecting the town of *York*, in the county of *York*, into a borough, for regulating the buildings, preventing nuiſances and encroachments on the commons, ſquares, ſtreets, lanes and alleys of the ſame, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

XVII. An ACT to enable the Sheriff and Juſtices of the Peace for the county of *Luzerne* to confine priſoners in the common gaol of the county of *Northampton*, and to empower the commiſſioners to run the line from the mouth of *Neſcopeck* creek, dividing the county of *Northumberland* from the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

XVIII. An ACT to empower certain members of the corporation of the Rector, Church Wardens and Veſtrymen of the United Epiſcopal Churches of *Chriſt Church* and *Saint Peter's* church, in the city of *Philadelphia*, to ſell a certain lot of ground in the townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties*.

XIX. An ACT for incorporating the *German* Reformed congregation of *Frankford*, in the townſhip of *Oxford*, and county of *Philadelphia.*

XX. An ACT to incorporate the Preſbyterian congregation of the town of *Pittſburg*, and the vicinity thereof, in the county of *Weſtmoreland.*

XXI. An ACT to appoint commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes and alleys in the diſtrict of *Southwark*, and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and to lay out the roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk.*

XXII. An ACT to provide for a continuation of the ſalaries of the officers of the land-office, and to aſcertain and provide the ſalary for the Judge of the admiralty, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.

XXIII. An ACT for compenſating ſuch as have advanced money for raiſing and enliſting men required from the ſeveral companies of militia, by an act, entituled "*An Act for the greater eaſe of the militia, and the more ſpeedy and effectual defence of this ſtate,*" and for compelling ſuch as have received monies for that purpoſe to account for and pay the ſame.

XXIV. An ACT for regulating chimney-ſweepers within the city of *Philadelphia*, the diſtrict of *Southwark* and townſhip of the *Northern-Liberties*, in the county of *Philadelphia.*

XXV. An ACT to continue the Act of General Aſſembly, entituled "*An Act for opening, and better amending and keeping in repair the public roads and highways within this province.*"

XXVI. An ACT to declare and regulate eſcheats.

Which laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

On motion, *Reſolved* unanimouſly, That the thanks of this Houſe be given to Mr. Speaker, for his faithful, able and upright conduct, in the execution of the duties of his ſtation.

The Houſe then roſe, *ſine Die.*

PETER Z. LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Philadelphia: PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIRST SESSION

OF THE TWELFTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on MONDAY, the Twenty-
ſecond Day of OCTOBER, in the Year of our LORD One
Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-ſeven.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRINTED BY HALL AND SELLERS, IN MARKET-STREET.
M,DCC,LXXXVII.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIRST SESSION
OF THE
TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Monday, October 22, 1787. P. M.

THIS being the day appointed by the conſtitution for the meeting of the General Aſſembly, a number of gentlemen, elected as repreſentatives to ſerve for the enſuing year, met accordingly; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Tueſday, October 23, 1787. P. M.

A number of gentlemen met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, October 24, 1787. P. M.

A number of gentlemen ſufficient to conſtitute a quorum met, and

On motion,

The returns of the elections held in the city of *Philadelphia*, and in the counties of *Philadelphia*, *Bucks*, *Cheſter*, *Lancaſter*, *York*, *Cumberland*, *Berks*, *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Weſtmoreland*, *Franklin*, *Montgomery*, *Dauphin*, *Luzerne* and *Huntingdon*, were read, by which it appeared that the following gentlemen were returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid city and counties reſpectively, for the enſuing year, *viz.*

For the city of PHILADELPHIA.
George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Will.

For the county of PHILADELPHIA.
Thomas Mifflin,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,
George Logan,
Richard Peters.

For the county of BUCKS.
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Samuel Foulke,
Valentine Upp.

For the county of CHESTER.
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Richard Thomas,
Samuel Evans,
Richard Willing,
Townſend Whelen.

For the county of LANCASTER.
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
Joſeph Work,
James Clemſon,
Jacob Erb,
John Hopkins.

For the county of YORK.
Michael Schmyſer,
William Mitchell,
David M'Clellan,
Joſeph Lilley,
Joſeph Reed,
Thomas Clingan.

For the county of CUMBERLAND.
David Mitchell,
Thomas Beale,
Thomas Kennedy,
John Oliver.

For the county of BERKS.
Joſeph Heiſter,
Gabriel Heiſter,
Charles Biddle,
David Davis,
Joſeph Sands.

For the county of NORTHAMPTON.
Peter Trexler, jun.
Thomas Mawhorter,
Peter Burkhalter,
Peter Ealer.

For the county of BEDFORD.
John Piper,
Jacob Saylor,
Abraham Cable.

For the county of WESTMORELAND.
William Findley,
James Barr,
John Irvine.

For the county of FRANKLIN.
James M'Lene,
James M'Calmont.

For the county of MONTGOMERY.
Jacob Reiff,
Robert Lollar,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Peter Richards.

For the county of DAUPHIN.
Jacob Miley,
Robert Clark,
John Carſon.

For the county of LUZERNE.
John Paul Schott.

For the county of HUNTINGDON.
Hugh Davidſon.

Note, No returns have been received from the counties of *Northumberland, Waſhington* and *Fayette.*

MEMBERS PRESENT.

George Clymer,
Thomas Fitzſimons,
Jacob Hiltzheimer,
William Lewis,
William Will,
Thomas Mifflin,
William Robinſon, jun.
John Salter,
George Logan,
Richard Peters,
Gerardus Wynkoop,
John Chapman,
Samuel Foulke,
Valentine Upp,
Robert Ralſton,
James Moore,
Richard Thomas,
Samuel Evans,

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Richard Willing,
Townſend Wheler,
Alexander Lowrey,
Adam Hubley,
James Clemſon,
Jacob Erb,
John Hopkins,
William Mitchell,
Joſeph Lilley,
David Mitchell,
Thomas Kennedy,
David Davis,
Joſeph Sands,
Peter Trexler, jun.
Peter Burkhalter,
Peter Ealer,
John Piper,
William Findley,
James Barr,
James M‘Lene,
James M‘Calmont,
Jacob Reiff,
Robert Lollar,
Benjamin Rittenhouſe,
Peter Richards,
Jacob Miley,
Robert Clark,
John Paul Schott,
Hugh Davidſon.

The Houſe proceeded to the election of a Speaker, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *Thomas Mifflin*, Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

Mr. Speaker being placed in the chair, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution.

The members preſent were then ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Peter Zachary Lloyd*, Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus*, Eſquire, unanimouſly elected Aſſiſtant Clerk, who appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified to the faithful execution of their reſpective offices.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 25, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in Aſſembly for the county of *Waſhington* was read, by which it appeared that *John M‘Dowell*, *James Alliſon*, *Alexander Wright* and *John Flenniken*, Eſquires, were duly returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid county, for the enſuing year.

David M‘Clellan and *Joſeph Reed*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *York*; *Gabriel Heiſter*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*; and *John M‘Dowell*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *James Martin*, praying to be appointed Serjeant at Arms, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe then proceeded to the choice of a Serjeant at Arms and Door-keeper, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *James Martin* was duly elected Serjeant at Arms, and *Joſeph Fry* Door-keeper; and they were ſeverally qualified to the faithful performance of their reſpective duties.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, ſtating divers illegal proceedings in conducting the late election of repreſentatives for the ſaid county, was read, together with the depoſitions incloſed, and praying that *John Carſon*, Eſquire, may not be admitted to take his ſeat as a repreſentative for ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A leter from *Charles Biddle*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*, was read, requeſting leave to decline taking his ſeat as a member of this Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That leave be granted accordingly. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to iſſue a writ, commanding the Sheriff of the county of *Berks* to hold an election of a repreſentative, in the room of the ſaid *Charles Biddle*, Eſquire.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Will* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to prepare a draught of rules and regulations for the government of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the late Houſe of Aſſembly be adopted for the government of the preſent Houſe, until a ſett of rules and regulations ſhall have been reported and adopted.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *M'Clellan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Burkhalter*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar*, Mr. *Miley*, Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Davidſon* be a committee, to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee of accounts for the enſuing year, and that they be and are hereby empowered to ſend for perſons and papers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Piper* be a committee, for examining the laws and minutes of the Houſe, preparing them for publication, and correcting them at the preſs.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to inſpect the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Lollar* be appointed to collect the fines that may be incurred by tranſgreſſing the rules and regulations which are or may be adopted for the government of this Houſe.

Reſolved, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the choice of printers to publiſh the laws and journals of this Houſe, and that notice of this order be inſerted in one of the daily newſpapers, to be printed in the city of *Philadelphia* to-morrow.

The committee appointed to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported their having performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that they would lay ſome buſineſs before the Houſe to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 26, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the election of repreſentatives to ſerve in General Aſſembly for the county of *Fayette* was read, by which it appeared that *Theophilus Philips* and *John Gilchreeſt*, Eſquires, were duly returned for the enſuing year.

James Alliſon and *Alexander Wright*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Waſhington*, appearing in the Houſe, were qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to bring in a bill to make the ſame allowance to the attending members of Convention as is made to the members of the General Aſſembly, and alſo to provide for the extraordinary expences which may be incurred by holding the ſaid elections.

The committee appointed yeſterday to inſpect the files of the late Houſe, and bring forward ſuch buſineſs as may be neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An "Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the "diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out "therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets "and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other "uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned," read in the late Houſe *September* 25th laſt, be referred to Mr *Robinſon*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſelling and diſpoſing of the* "*reſidue of the donation lands, reſerving part thereof for a town on* Lake Erie, "*to the uſe of the commonwealth*," read in the late Houſe *March* 2d laſt, be referred to Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and* "*vendues*," read in the late Houſe *September* 12th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Will*, M. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Commiſſioners of the* "*county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* "Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county*," read in the late Houſe *September* 12th laſt, be referred to the members from *Cheſter* county, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the petition of divers perſons claiming lands in the county of *Luzerne*, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee, read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the Treaſurer's tranſcript of taxes paid by the ſeveral counties, *&c.* be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid report be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *October* 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Joſeph Work, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Lancaſter*, and *Thomas Clingan*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *York*, appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

The Secretary of Council attending at the door, was introduced, and preſented to the chair a meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council, which was read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE the laſt ſeſſion there has been a renewal of the diſturbances at *Wyoming*; ſome reſtleſs ſpirits there having imagined a project of withdrawing the inhabitants of that part of this ſtate, and ſome part of the ſtate of *New-York*, from their allegiance, and of forming them into a new ſtate, to be carried into effect by an armed force, in defiance of the laws of the two ſtates. Having intelligence of this, we cauſed one of the principal conſpirators to be apprehended, and ſecured in the gaol of this city—and another who reſided in the ſtate of *New-York*, at our requeſt, has been taken up by the authority of that government. The papers found on this occaſion fully diſcover the deſigns of theſe turbulent people, and ſome of their letters are herewith laid before you. The government of *New-York* has, in this affair, manifeſted the moſt friendly and neighbourly diſpoſition towards this ſtate, and has promiſed to concur with us in ſuch future meaſures as may be neceſſary to ſecure the due operation of the laws, and reſtore quiet in thoſe parts of both ſtates, where theſe irregular and ill-diſpoſed ſettlers have their habitations. To protect the civil officers of our new county of *Luzerne* in the exerciſe of their reſpective functions, we have ordered a body of militia to hold themſelves in readineſs to march thither, which will be done, unleſs ſome future circumſtances, and informations from thoſe parts, may make it appear unneceſſary.

The ſudden and unaccountable obſtruction which the currency of the paper money of this ſtate has lately met with, we earneſtly recommend to your conſideration, as a matter of great importance; the private intereſts of the citizens being very extenſively affected by it, and the public in danger of ſuffering a loſs in its revenue of exciſe, duties and taxes, *&c.* proportioned to any depreciation the paper money may be attended with. Perhaps it may be adviſeable to put a ſtop to the farther re-emiſſions on loan, which are permitted by the law as it now ſtands.

We would likewiſe recommend to your conſideration, the ſubject of a law to regulate the fees of the various officers of the ſtate, eſpecially thoſe of the executive and judicial departments.

The lowering the price of lands in the new purchaſe we now think neceſſary, it being very evident that they will not ſell till this takes place: At the ſame time we are of opinion it would be of advantage to the ſtate, if thoſe who become purchaſers had an exemption from taxes for ſeveral years, as it would be an encouragement to the people to become purchaſers.

Since the expiration of the law for granting lands to the officers and ſoldiers of the *Pennſylvania* line, a number of applications have been made to us by perſons who were entitled, but for want of information did not apply in time; we therefore recommend it to your honorable Houſe to paſs a law, granting a further time for thoſe people to come in and draw for their lands.

Sundry diſpatches we have received from Congreſs are herewith communicated.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, October 27, 1787.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition from the committee of ſubſcribers for erecting a permanent bridge acroſs the river *Schuylkill*, at the end of *High-ſtreet*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of erecting the aforeſaid bridge; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

A petition from *Michael Billmeyer*, praying to be appointed printer of the minutes of this Houſe, and of all bills which may be ordered to be printed in the *German* language, and a joint petition from *Steemer*, *Albright* and *Lahn*, of a ſimilar nature, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford* was read, referring to the petition of ſaid *Wells* read in the late Houſe *September* 10th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Ralſton* have leave of abſence until *Thurſday* next.

A memorial from *Mary Byron* was read, referring to her petition read in the late Houſe *March* 29th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the petitioner have leave to withdraw her petitions.

The petitions of *James Young* and *Charles Buſſelot*, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Lilley*, Mr. *Barr* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to confer with Council concerning the time, place and manner for electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a*

“ *certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for th*
“ *uſe of ſaid county,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, October 29, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Thomas Beale and *John Oliver*, Eſquires, elected repreſentatives for the county of *Cumberland*; *Joſeph Heiſter*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Berks*; and *John Carſon*, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Dauphin*; appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified according to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A letter from *Peter Ealer*, Eſquire, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was read, requeſting to be re-appointed to the office of Treaſurer of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Melchior Steiner* was read, praying to be appointed printer of the *German* minutes, and of the bills which may be ordered for publication by this Houſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Robert Smith*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, printer, was preſented to the chair, and read, containing propoſals for printing the laws which may be enacted, and the bills ordered to be printed for public conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Mary Byron* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with her petition preſented to the late Houſe of Aſſembly in *March* laſt, and praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition and remonſtrance from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled “ *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to regulate the ſtreets, lanes* “ *and alleys in the diſtrict of* Southwark, *and to lay out new ſtreets, lanes and* “ *alleys therein, for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and to lay out the* “ *roads therein mentioned through the ſaid diſtrict, and parts of the townſhips of* “ Moyamenſing *and* Paſſyunk,” and praying the ſame may be repealed or ſuſpended, ſo far as it reſpects the road to be opened by the act aforeſaid from the diſtrict of *Southwark* to *Gray*'s ferry.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin*, read *October* 25th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon the depoſitions of *Michael Zimmerman*, *Rudolph Kelcher* and *Jacob Hubley* were preſented, and read.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 27th, to confer with Council reſpecting the time, place and manner of electing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident, reported, that Council recommend that *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for holding the ſaid election, that the Aſſembly Chamber be the place, and they propoſe the follwing order of proceſſion, *viz.*

ORDER of PROCESSION.

Conſtables, with their ſtaves.
Sub-Sheriffs, with their wands.
High-Sheriff and Coroner, with their wands.
Judges of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the High Court of Errors and Appeals.
Attorney-General, and Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.
Marſhal of the Admiralty.
Judge and Regiſter of the Admiralty.
Wardens of the Port of *Philadelphia.*
Naval-Officer, Collector of the Cuſtoms, and Tonnage-Officer.
Treaſurer and Comptroller-General.
Secretary of the Land-Office.
Receiver-General and Surveyor-General.
Juſtices of the Peace.
Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, and
Clerk of the Court of Quarter Seſſions.
Clerk of the City Court.
Maſter of the Rolls and Regiſter of Wills.
Aſſiſtant Secretary of the Council.
Secretary of the Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT, and Honorable the VICE-PRESIDENT.

Members of the Council, two and two.
Door-keeper of the Council.
Serjeant at Arms, with the Mace.
Clerk and Aſſiſtant Clerk of the General Aſſembly.
Honorable the Speaker of the General Aſſembly.
Members of the General Aſſembly, two and two.
Door-keeper of the General Aſſembly.
Provoſt and Faculty of the Univerſity.
Officers of the Militia.
Citizens.

Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That the Houſe approve of the time, place and manner of holding the ſaid election.

The committee appointed the 27th of *October*, to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy* be a committee, to report on that part of the meſſage and papers which reſpect the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne*, and the meaſures taken by Council in conſequence thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage from Council, which relates to the ſudden depreciation of the paper currency.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the reduction in the price of public lands.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Piper*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage, which reſpects the regulation of fees.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage, relative to the expediency of granting a further time for the application of the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line to draw for and take up lands.

Ordered, That the requiſitions of Congreſs for the current year be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the raiſing of the fœderal troops.

Ordered, That Mr. *Whelen*, Mr. *J. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Dowell*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the purchaſe of a ſmall tract of country on Lake *Erie*.

A verbal meſſage having been delivered by the Secretary of Council to the chair, it was,

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee, to confer with Council reſpecting the diſturbances exiſting at *Wyoming*, and report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the commiſſioners of the county of* Cheſter *to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of* Eaſt-Caln, *and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of ſaid county,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, October 30, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The return of the annual election held in the county of *Northumberland* was read, by which it appeared that *Samuel Maclay* and *John White*, Eſquires, were duly returned as repreſentatives for the ſaid county for the enſuing year.

A petition from divers claimants of lands, under *Pennſylvania* titles, within the county of *Luzerne*, was read, praying that the report of the committee of the late Houſe of Aſſembly may be taken into conſideration, and adopted, with certain alterations in the ſaid petition ſtated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *William Van Phul*, in behalf of himſelf and *George* and *William Graff*, was read, praying leave to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna* to the town of *Sunbury*, in the county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Peter Phelan*, late a ſoldier in the fifth *Pennſylvania* regiment, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given him for the depreciation due on his pay, and praying a new one may be granted him in lieu of that which he hath loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *James Milligan* and *Hugh Lenox* was read, referring to their petitions preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, and praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the iſſuing warrants for the amount of lands ſtated in their ſaid petitions.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from *Eleazer Oſwald*, *Hall* and *Sellers*, *Thomas Bradford*, and *Daniel Humphreys*, were read, praying to be appointed printers to this Houſe.

Ordered, That the ſaid petitions, together with thoſe of *Michael Billmeyer*, *Steemer Albright* and *Lahn*, *Robert Smith*, and *Melchior Steiner*, be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon: Whereupon

Ordered, That the order of the day for the election of printers be poſtponed until *Thurſday* next.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, October 31, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Daniel Murphy*, late a Captain in the navy of this ſtate, was read, ſetting forth, that he continued in the ſervice until *Auguſt* 1778, when he, with a number of others, was deranged; and ſtating that he hath not received the depreciation due on his pay, although the ſame has been allowed to others in ſimilar circumſtances; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *William Van Phul*, in behalf of himſelf and others, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage from Council, relative to the raiſing of troops to be ſtationed on the weſtern frontiers, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the requiſitions of Congreſs of the third of *October* inſtant, for raiſing troops to be ſtationed on the weſtern frontiers, ſo far as it reſpects this ſtate, be complied with, and that a committee be appointed to report a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage and papers reſpecting the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne,* made report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, As in the opinion of this Houſe a permanent force of enliſted troops may be neceſſary to ſecure the peace of the county of *Luzerne,* that the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to obtain permiſſion of Congreſs to raiſe any number of troops for the aforeſaid purpoſe, not exceeding five hundred men.

The Supreme Executive Council being introduced into the Aſſembly chamber, conformably to the reſolution of *October* 29th, proceeded, in conjunction with the Houſe, to the election of a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, purſuant to the nineteenth ſection of the conſtitution, and unanimouſly elected, by ballot, his Excellency *Benjamin Franklin,* Eſquire, Preſident, and the Honorable *Peter Muhlenberg,* Eſquire, Vice-Preſident, for the enſuing year; and the members of Council and General Aſſembly having ſeverally ſigned a declaration thereof,

The Houſe then, in the order of proceſſion, attended the proclamation of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, at the Court-Houſe in the city of *Philadelphia,* and having returned to the Aſſembly chamber,

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 1, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Lyon* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing a ferry acroſs the river *Suſquehanna,* at the town of *Sunbury.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from the Preſbyterian congregation of *Middle Octorara,* in the county of *Lancaſter,* and the Firſt Preſbyterian congregation at *Big Spring,* in *Newtown* townſhip, in the county of *Cumberland,* were read, ſeverally praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer of the petitions be granted.

A petition from the adminiſtrators and major part of the legal repreſentatives (in perſon, or by guardians) of *Ann Nedrow,* deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that divers real eſtates in the counties of *Philadelphia, Lancaſter* and *Montgomery,* were deviſed unto the ſaid *Ann* by her brother *Richard Johnſton*; that the ſaid *Ann,* at the time of the aforeſaid deviſe, and until the time of her death, was under coverture, whereby ſhe was diſabled from making diſtribution of her eſtate; that from the numerous deſcendants of the ſaid deceaſed, it is become impracticable to procure a partition of the ſaid eſtate without the interference of the legiſlature; therefore praying leave to bring in a bill, authoriſing the adminiſtrators to the eſtate of her late daughter, *Ann Keyſer*, to ſettle and diſpoſe of the ſame for the benefit of the heirs.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Nicholas Krehl* and *Daniel Weidle* was read, ſetting forth, that their late father-in-law, *Nicholas Huſeker*, was attainted of high treaſon, and his eſtate confiſcated to the uſe of the commonwealth; that they had taken a decided part in favor of the late revolution, to the great injury of their private property; and as others have been indulged by the legiſlature with the whole of the real eſtate confiſcated as the property of their anceſtors, they pray an allowance or gratuity may be made them of ſome of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hiltzheimer*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Foulke*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Clemſon*, Mr. *Clingan*, Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Trexler*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Mackay*, Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *Alliſon*, Mr. *Gilchreeſt*, Mr. *M‘Calmont*, Mr. *Richards*, Mr. *Miley*, Mr. *Schott* and Mr. *Davidſon*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Devereux Smith*, of a ſimilar tenor with his petition read *March* 9th, 1786, was read, praying relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *James Millegan* and *Hugh Lenox*, read *October* 30th, the petition of *Peter Phelan*, read the ſame day, and the petition of *Daniel Murphy*, read *October* 31ſt, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of *Mary Byron*, read *October* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Work*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Sands*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 30th, on the propoſals of the printers, made report, which was read: Whereupon,

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a printer of the minutes in the *Engliſh* language, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Hall* and *Sellers* were duly elected.

The Houſe then elected, by ballot, *Thomas Bradford* printer of the laws which may be enacted, and the bills ordered for public conſideration.

The Houſe then elected *Michael Billmeyer* printer of the minutes and bills of this Houſe, which may be ordered to be publiſhed in the *German* language.

On motion of Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That the Committee of Accounts be and they are hereby directed forthwith to count, burn and deſtroy ſuch part of the bills of credit of the late emiſſion as may now be found collected into the treaſury of this ſtate, and ſuch further ſums as may come in during this ſeſſion, agreeably to the act of General Aſſembly paſſed 25th of *March*, 1785, and report to this Houſe.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled “ *An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter,” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, *October* 26th, reported a bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “ An Act
“ for

" for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict
" of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein pub-
" lic roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as
" the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and pur-
" poſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *November* 2, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry Brink* and *William Van Gorder* was read, ſetting forth, that they, with ſeveral others, were called upon by the magiſtrates to oppoſe a number of perſons aſſociated under the name of *Connecticut Claimants* at *Wyoming*, who had entered the ſettlement in a violent manner, and with hoſtile intention; that on the 20th day of *July*, 1784, the petitioners were, while paſſing through the ſettlement of *Shawanee*, fired upon and grievouſly wounded by the *Connecticut Claimants* aforeſaid; that in conſequence they have ever ſince languiſhed under much pain and ſickneſs, ſubjected to heavy expence, and rendered unable to obtain a ſubſiſtence by hard labour; and praying this Houſe to grant them relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Nicholas Krehl* and *Daniel Weidle*, to report thereon.

A petition from divers ſoldiers, in behalf of themſelves and others of the late *Pennſylvania* line, praying a further time may be allowed them to draw for and take out patents for the donation lands, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Lyon*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

The petition and remonſtrance of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, read *October* 29th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Philips*, to report thereon.

A petition from 230 inhabitants of the county of *York*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *September* 6th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled
" *An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *and veſting the right*
" *in* William Van Phul, George Graff *and* William Graff, *their heirs and aſ-*
" *ſigns*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled “*An Act to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “*A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o’clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 3, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Tate* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled, “*An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *and veſting the right in* William Van Phul, George Graff *and* William Graff, *their heirs and aſſigns*,” and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of the adminiſtrators and major part of the legal repreſentatives (in perſon, or by their guardians) of *Ann Nedrow*, deceaſed, read *November* 1ſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Salter*, Mr. *Logan* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Margaret Davis* was read, referring to her petition read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *Auguſt* 23d, 1784, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Thomas*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey* and Mr. *Clingan*, to report thereon.

A petition from the owners and occupiers of marſh meadow in the northern and ſouthern diſtricts of *Kingſeſſing* and *Tinicum*, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 14th laſt, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill, conformably to the prayer of their petition.

On motion made by Mr. *Lollar*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to conſider of and report ſome proper mode to be purſued by this Houſe, in order to effect the ſinking and deſtroying ſuch ſum or ſums of the laſt emiſſion of the continental money, commonly called continental ſtate money, as at this time or hereafter may be found in the treaſury of this ſtate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Philips* be added to the committee to deviſe ways and means for the ſupplies of the current year.

On motion of Mr. *Logan,* ſeconded by Mr. *Chapman,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to take into conſideration and enquire into the effects of the act for amending the penal laws of this ſtate, enacted *September* 15th, 1786, and to report how far the ſame anſwers the benevolent intention of the legiſlature.

Ordered, That Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *October* 25th, to inſpect the files of the late Houſe, and report ſuch buſineſs as they may deem neceſſary to lay before this Houſe, made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the report on the petition from the freemen of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter,* in the county of *Cheſter,* read in the late Houſe *September* 23d laſt, be referred to the members from the county of *Cheſter,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report of the committee on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell,* read in the late Houſe *November* 30th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Ealer,* Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Barr,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, reſpecting the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne,* made a further report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* reſpecting the late election in and for the ſaid county, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the ſaid petition be diſmiſſed, for want of evidence to ſupport the ſame.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection* "*of the weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Wedneſday* next, P. M.

Wedneſday, November 7, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

John White, Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Northumberland;* *John Irvine,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Weſtmoreland;* and *John Flenniken,* Eſquire, elected a repreſentative for the county of *Waſhington;* appearing in the Houſe, were ſeverally qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take their ſeats.

A petition from *Thomas M'Intire*, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia* for debt, was read, praying leave, from the peculiar circumſtances of his caſe recited in the petition, to bring in a bill, empowering the Preſident in Council, on the proper application of the petitioner, to iſſue a commiſſion of bankruptcy againſt him, as is uſually done in caſes of bankrupts on petitions of their creditors; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Clark* and Mr. *Piper*, to report thereon.

A petition from *John Robinſon* was read, ſetting forth, that in *October*, 1781, he took the command of the third company of the firſt regiment of *Berks* county militia, and continued in ſervice until legally diſcharged, for which neither he, nor the men under his command, have received any ſatiſfaction; that he has been arreſted for the pay of the ſaid men, and judgment awarded againſt him; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl*, and others.

A letter, in excuſe for the non-attendance of *Peter Ealer*, Eſquire, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, *November* 8, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A meſſage from his Excellency the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE your reſolution of the thirty-firſt ultimo was forwarded to Congreſs, Council have received information that the members remaining at *New-York* were not ſufficient to form a repreſentation of the United States.

As the danger to the ſtate appears to be preſſing, and the permiſſion ſolicited from Congreſs cannot now be obtained, Council therefore recommend it to the General Aſſembly, to adopt effectual meaſures for enforcing the laws of the ſtate in the county of *Luzerne*, which they are of opinion cannot be done without a permanent force.

The expulſion of the Commiſſioners from *Wyoming* will occaſion a delay in the execution of their duty under the late law: Council therefore recommend that a further time be given for compleating the ſervices expected from them under their preſent appointment.

The caſe of Colonel *Mentges*, ſubmitted to the conſideration of a former Houſe, is recommended to the attention of the General Aſſembly, as he appears to have performed ſundry ſervices, for which he has received no compenſation.

The petition of Captain *Woelpper* is herewith tranſmitted, as the powers of Council do not extend to his caſe.

Conſiderable deficiencies have ariſen in the collection of taxes, owing to the neglect of ſome of the magiſtrates in not proſecuting delinquents, after returns are furniſhed to them by the collectors. This abuſe, in the opinion of Council, merits the attention of the General Aſſembly, either in removing the magiſtrates guilty of ſuch neglect, or ſubjecting them to ſome penalty that may compel them to a faithful diſcharge of their duty.

B. FRANKLIN.

November 8, 1787.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *M'Lene,* Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming,* and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others, be a committee, to report on that part of the meſſage reſpecting the claim of Colonel *Francis Mentges.*

Ordered, That the petition of *David Woelpper* be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Ordered, That that part of the meſſage reſpecting the deficiencies which have ariſen in the collection of taxes, *&c.* be referred to Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Maclay* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Treaſurer for this commonwealth.

A memorial from *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable REPRESENTATIVES *of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of JOHN PENN, junior, and JOHN PENN.

YOUR memorialiſts beg leave to lay before your honorable Houſe an eſtimate, from the public records, of the loſſes they have ſuſtained by the late revolution.

Four peaceful years have elapſed ſince the confirmation of *American* Independence, during which your memoraliſts have remained in painful uncertainty with regard to an adequate compenſation from the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania.* They now ſubmit the conſideration of that important ſubject to your honorable Houſe, and earneſtly ſolicit their favorable deciſion.

Confiding in the honor and generoſity of a country planted and foſtered by the hand of their anceſtor, your memorialiſts humbly pray that the donation heretofore granted to them may be reconſidered, and that ſuch further recompence for their loſſes may be given by your honorable Houſe, in their wiſdom and juſtice, as the deſcendants of *William Penn* may eſteem proportionate to their claims, and becoming the dignity of a free, independent and honorable people.

JOHN PENN, *jun.*
JOHN PENN.

An ACCOUNT *of the grant of* Pennſylvania *to* William Penn, *Eſquire,*

with an account of the ſales and other diſpoſitions of land made by ſaid William [illegible] *of, and by other ſucceeding proprietors, from and between the 4th day of* March, 1680-1, [illegible], *with a computation of the arrears of quit-rent to* March 1779 *and the annual value of the ſaid quit-rents*; *together with an eſtimate of the value of various articles of property which belonged to the Honorable* John Penn, *junior, and the Honorable* John Penn, *ſenior, in the year* 1779, *before the* 2[illegible] *day of November in the ſame year, when the act of Aſſembly was paſſed, entituled "An act for veſting the eſtates of the late proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in this commonwealth."*

IN the year 1680, the Engliſh nation being indebted to the ſaid *William Penn*, he applied by petition to king *Charles* the ſecond, for a grant of a tract of country in *America*, in ſatisfaction for the whole or part for that debt; which petition being conſidered and approved, his majeſty was pleaſed, in compliance therewith, to grant to the ſaid *William Penn*, and to his heirs and aſſigns for ever, his letters patent, bearing date the 4th day of *March*, 1680-1, for a certain tract of land in *America*, then firſt named *Pennſylvania*, under a particular deſcription mentioned in ſaid patent, together with the powers of government. The quantity of land included within the limits of *Pennſylvania*, according to late computations, amounts to twenty-ſeven millions, nine hundred fifty-five thouſand and two hundred acres.

Sales for purchaſe money, which has been paid, and on an annual Quit-rent for ever.

	Acres.
To ſundry perſons, called firſt purchaſers, for the amount of land bought by them between the 4th March, 1680-1, and the month of October, 1682, as appears by a book in the Surveyor General's office, excluſive of two entries, one to William Penn, junior, and Lætitia Penn, for 40,000 acres, and the other to William Penn, nephew to the proprietary, for 25,000 acres, which will be differently ſtated and placed in this account,	874,550
This computation includes a ſale to the free ſociety of traders of 20,000 acres, and another to the London company of 60,000 acres; and becauſe it appears that 14,049 acres, part of this laſt mentioned ſale to the London company, has been ſurveyed in New-Caſtle county, therefore deduct - - - -	14,049
	860,501
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between October 1682 and the year 1701, - - - - - - -	83,003½
This computation includes a ſale to the Frankford company of 25000 acres, and another to Sir Matthias Vincent, Thompſon and Cox, of 30,000 acres, and is formed for the moſt part from the records of patents in the recorder's office before the year 1701, no patent book or account books of purchaſe monies received for lands ſold before that time having been kept either in the ſecretary or receiver general's offices.	
It appears that regular books of accounts were kept in the receiver general's office from the 10th Ninth Month, 1701, to the 28th March 1778, which books ſhew that the whole money received on account of the ſeveral proprietaries between thoſe periods amounts to £ 678,891 2 8¼, beſides £ 9,594 18 1 paid in bonds, wheat, flour, or ſervices, making together the ſum of £688,486 0 9¼, excluſive of monies received for manor and appropriated lands ſince the beginning of the year 1757; which ſum of £ 688,486 0 9¼ includes monies received for manor and appropriated lands ſold before 1757, monies received from the government, monies received for lands ſold in Jerſey and Delaware States, for intereſt and quit-rent, temporary rents, ground-rents, and various other accounts, which have no relation to the purchaſe money of land in Pennſylvania, to the amount of £ 325,912 9 4, and conſequently, when deducted, the whole ſum received for the purchaſe of common lands in Pennſylvania, from and between the abovementioned 10th Ninth Month, 1701, and the 28th March, 1778, will amount to £ 362,573 11 5¼.	
It further appears by an account ſtated, that the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6, part of the aforeſaid £ 362,573 11 5¼, was received for the purchaſe money of common lands in Pennſylvania, between the 10th of the Ninth Month, 1701, and the 7th December, 1732, during which time lands were ſold at various prices. Overplus land was often ſold from £ 18 to £ 25 for 100 acres, and ſome times at prices higher, though ſeldom lower, and other lands were generally ſold at or about £ 10 for 100 acres; but, as an exact diſcrimination cannot with certainty be made, and an admiſſion of £ 10 per 100 acres will be a moderate rate of computation, therefore the ſales of lands on this principle, between the 10th Ninth Month, 1701, and the 7th December 1732, will be as follows, viz.	
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them for the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6, at £ 10 per 100 acres, from 10th Ninth Month, 1701, to 7th December, 1732, - - - - - - -	126,101¾
It appears, that after deducting the ſum of £ 12,610 3 6 from £ 362,573 11 5¼, there will remain the ſum of £ 349,963 7 11¼, which has been paid for the purchaſe money of the common lands in Pennſylvania from 7th December, 1732, to the 28th March, 1778.	
Carried over, -	1,069,606¼

	Acres.
Brought over, -	1,069,606¼

And further it appears, that from the 7th December, 1732, to 27th December, 1762, the common lands were ſold at £ 15 10 per 100 acres currency purchaſe money, and one half penny ſterling an acre per annum quit-rent, and for ſome years afterwards for lands which were ſettled and improved within theſe times; and alſo, that on the 27th December, 1762, theſe terms were altered to £ 9 currency for 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling an acre per annum quit-rent, which alteration continued no longer than until the 5th Auguſt, 1763, except in two inſtances, one to William M'Croſky for 200 acres, by warrant of 26th January, 1767, and the other to George Meintzer for 50 acres, by warrant of 4th September, 1769, claimed on the grounds of improvement in 1763.

It appears further, that on the 1ſt of Auguſt, 1765, the mode and terms of granting lands were again altered. Lands were now granted on applications, on the terms of £ 5 ſterling for 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent, which terms continued till on or about the 6th September, 1769. After this time the mode of granting lands on applications ceaſed, and warrants were granted to all appliers for land on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, and one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent.

	£	s.	d.
It appears by accounts ſtated, that the ſum of £ 3082 18 5 currency was paid on account of lands granted on the terms of £ 9 per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - -	£ 3082	18	5
That the ſum of £ 19994 7 8½ currency, in lieu of £ 11996 12 7½ ſterling, was paid on account of lands granted on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, on applications, -	19994	7	8½
And that the ſum of £ 112177 0 7½ currency, in lieu of £ 67300 4 5 ſterling, was paid on account of lands granted by warrants, on the terms of £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money,	112177	0	7½
And that by conſequence, the ſum of £ 214709 1 2¼ was paid on the terms of £ 15 10 currency per 100 acres purchaſe money,	214709	1	2¼
	349963	7	11¼

The ſales of lands, therefore, between the 7th December, 1732, and the month of December, 1776, after which time no more grants of the common lands were made by the proprietaries, will be as follows, viz.

	Acres
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 7th December, 1732, and the 27th December, 1762, for the ſum of £ 214709 1 2¹, at £ 15 10 currency per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - -	1,385,219¾
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 27th December, 1762, and the 5th Auguſt, 1763, for the ſum of £ 3082 18 5 currency, at £ 9 per 100 acres purchaſe money, - - - - -	34,254½
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 1ſt Auguſt, 1765, and the 6th September, 1769, for the ſum of £ 11996 12 7½ ſterling, at £ 5 ſterling per 100 acres purchaſe money, on applications, - -	239,932½
To ſundry perſons, for the amount of land bought by them between the 6th September, 1769, and the month of December, 1776, for the ſum of £ 67300 4 5 ſterling per 100 hundred acres purchaſe money, on warrants, - -	1,346,004½
Amount of common lands ſold, - - - -	4,075,017½

Grants of land made for an annual Quit-rent, without purchaſe money.

	Acres
To ſundry Swedes, for lands claimed by them under rights from the duke of York, or by poſſeſſion and improvement, before the date of the royal grant of Pennſylvania to William Penn, Eſquire, as appears by extracts taken from records in the Recorder's office, and patent books in the Secretary's office, - - -	37,037½
To ſundry perſons, called renters, as appears from the records in the above mentioned offices, - - - - - - - -	9,087½
To ſundry ſervants of the firſt purchaſers and adventurers into Pennſylvania,	4,571¼
To ſundry perſons, not under any of the above deſcriptions, - -	7,261¾
	57,958½

Gifts by ſeveral proprietaries to ſundry branches of their families.

To Sir John Fag 50,000 acres, to be held by him in truſt, one half for the uſe of William Penn, junior, commonly called William Penn the ſecond, and the other half for the uſe of Lætitia Penn. It appears, by patents and warrants iſſued in ſatisfaction

	Acres.	Per.
of this right, that 1250 acres have been granted over and above the ſaid 50,000 acres, which, added thereto, makes 51,250 acres, of which about 12,000 acres have been ſurveyed in New-Caſtle county, and the remainder lies in Pennſylvania, being	39,250	
To Samuel Carpenter, Iſaac Norris and Edward Pennington, 7000 acres, part of 12,000 acres granted to them in truſt, for the uſe of John Penn, Eſquire, the remaining 5000 acres being granted in right of Thomas Callowhill, who was a firſt purchaſer,	7,000	
To Samuel Carpenter, Iſaac Norris and Edward Pennington, 10,000 acres, to be held by them in truſt for the ſaid John Penn, then born, and other children who might be born of Hannah Penn, - - - - - -	10,000	
To Gulielma Maria Penn, deviſed to her by the laſt will and teſtament of William Penn, Eſquire, dated 27th Third Month, called May, 1712, - -	10,000	
To Springett Penn, deviſed by ſaid will, - - - - -	10,000	
To William Penn, Ditto, - - - - - -	10,000	
To Lætitia Aubrey, Ditto, - - - - - - -	10,000	
To Thomas Penn, Eſquire, 5000 acres, granted him by five ſeparate warrants for 1000 acres each, dated 12th May, 1732, - - - - -	5,000	
To Thomas Penn, granted him by one warrant, dated 18th May, 1732, -	5,000	
To Richard Penn, Eſq; granted him by five ſeparate warrants, for 1000 acres each, dated 12th May, 1732, - - - - - - - -	5,000	
	111,250	

Appropriations of land by the proprietaries, from the year 1682 *to the year* 1776.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract whereon the city of Philadelphia ſtands, ſituate between Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, containing about - - - - - - -	1,200	
Springetſbury manor, joining the northern line of Philadelphia city, about	1,830	
A tract at Greenwich, commonly called Glouceſter point, - -	28	
A tract, called Springfield manor, - - - - - -	4,010	
A tract in Hatfield townſhip, - - - - - -	905	
A tract in Providence townſhip, - - - - - -	28	55
A tract called Gilbert's manor, ſurveyed at firſt for 10,000 acres, but the London company were allowed 5000 acres out of it, in part of their purchaſe, which left for the proprietors, - - - - - - - -	5,000	
A tract reſerved out of a large tract ſurveyed for the Swedes, -	600	
A tract in Limerick townſhip, returned 17th December, 1701, by Edward Pennington,	500	
A tract on Schuylkill, - - - - - -	1,000	
A ſmall piece of ground oppoſite the lower ferry, about, - - -	2	
	15,103	55

BUCKS COUNTY.

	Acres.
A tract, called the mine tract, - - - - - -	304
A tract, called Richland Manor, - - - - - -	10,577
A tract, called Highland Manor, containing 7769 acres; but the London company were allowed 5205 acres out of it, in part of their purchaſe, which left for the proprietaries, - - - - - - -	2,564
A tract, called Pennſbury manor, which by a draft in the Surveyor-General's office, dated 13th Firſt Month, 169$\frac{5}{6}$, ſigned by David Powell, contains 6543 acres; and it is obſerved on a piece of paper joined to this draft, that before the proprietor conveyed to his ſon he had ſold certain parts of Pennſbury manor to perſons, called his ſervants; it therefore ſeems uncertain what particular quantity was at firſt ſurveyed for the manor of Pennſbury, but it probably was about - - - -	8,000
A tract patented to Ferdinando Paris, but which was ſurveyed before for the proprietaries, - - - - - - -	1,500
A tract patented to ditto, but firſt ſurveyed for the proprietaries, - -	1,500
A tract patented to Richard Peters, in truſt for the Durham Iron company, -	4,448
A tract in Falls townſhip, called the Governor's ſwamp, - - -	150
A tract oppoſite the mouth of Mohockamack, - - - -	400
A tract in Saucong townſhip, - - - - -	284
A tract on Lehigh, - - - - - -	508
A tract in Solebury townſhip, - - - - -	500
A tract in Buckingham, - - - - - -	500
Carried over, -	31,235

	Acres.	Per.
BUCKS COUNTY, Brought over,	31235	
A tract in Warminſter,	362	
A tract in Southampton,	429	
A tract on Cook's creek,	607	
A tract on Analamink,	1,500	
Sundry tracts, called Lottery land,	2,821	74
	36,954	74

CHESTER COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A ſtrip of land between Pikeland and Charleſtown, containing	275	145
A tract in Marlborough townſhip,	500	
A tract in Tredyffrin townſhip,	210	120
A tract in Fallowfield townſhip,	500	
A tract on Schuylkill river, joining Bilton manor,	160	
A tract in Weſt-Caln townſhip,	772	
A tract, called Springton manor,	10,000	
A tract in Eaſt-Nantmill townſhip,	63	
A tract in Caln townſhip,	500	
A tract in Caln townſhip,	500	
A tract in Sadſbury townſhip,	500	
	13,981	105

LANCASTER COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Hempfield townſhip, containing	2,816	
A tract, called Coneſtogo manor,	16,000	
A tract on Chickaſalongo creek,	2,103	
A tract in Donegal townſhip,	203	
A tract in Straſburgh townſhip,	1,475	
A tract, called a Strip of land joining a tract or manor ſurveyed for Richard Penn, Eſq;	3,602	149
A tract on the ſouth-weſt ſide of Suſquehanna,	3,000	
Two tracts joining each other, 52 acres and 111 acres,	163	
	29,362	149

YORK COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Manallen townſhip, containing	1,047	80
A tract, called Maſke manor,	43,500	
A tract, called Springetſbury manor, including a tract on which York-town ſtands, and another tract of 2,000 acres,	64,520	
A tract near Conewago,	491	
	109,558	80

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract in Weſt-Pennſborough townſhip, called Jericho, containing	809	40
A tract in ditto,	828	
A tract adjoining the mountain,	988	
A tract compoſed of ſeveral tracts, including the town of Carliſle, containing together 6,921 acres and 23 perches, according to a return thereof dated 5th April, 1763,	6,921	23
A tract on the heads of Penn's creek,	820	
A tract adjoining the North-Mountain,	3,600	
A tract, called Lowther manor,	7,648	158
A tract in Lurgan townſhip,	647	80
A tract joining the Kittatany Mountain,	55	
A tract in Guilford townſhip,	1,275	
A tract in Hopewell townſhip,	4,045	120
Carried forward,	27,638	101

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, Brought forward,	Acres.	Per.
	27,638	101
A tract in Hopewell townſhip,	970	
A tract in Guilford townſhip,	3,220	80
A tract joining the North Mountain,	823	40
A tract in Weſt-Pennſborough townſhip,	770	120
	33,423	21

BERKS COUNTY.

A tract in Cumru townſhip, containing	245	
A tract near Reading-town,	99	
A tract, called Ruſcomb manor,	10,000	
A tract joining ditto,	12,200	
A tract in Cumru townſhip,	168	109
A tract on Kind creek,	582	80
A tract on ditto,	1,000	
A tract beyond the Blue Mountains, on Schuylkill river,	646	
A tract on the branches of Swatara,	1,772	
A tract beyond the Blue Mountains, on Schuylkill,	461	80
A tract, called Moſſellin,	2,990	
A tract near Maiden creek,	500	
A tract on a large branch of Swatara creek, beyond the Blue Mountains,	1,431	
A tract in Brecknock townſhip,	549	
A tract in Alſace townſhip,	70	120
A tract, called the Mine tract,	400	
	33,115	69

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

A tract in the forks of Delaware, containing	6,500	
A tract above the Foul Rift,	525	
A tract in Mountbethel townſhip,	360	
A tract joining the above,	596	
A tract joining the above,	785	
A tract in Saucong townſhip,	284	
A tract in Macungy and Whitehall townſhips,	2,157	
A tract, part of what is commonly called the Dry-lands,	7,985	
A tract, ditto,	1,890	
A tract, ditto,	500	
A tract, ditto,	1,223	
A tract, ditto,	11,450	
A tract whereon the town of Eaſton ſtands,	1,000	
A tract joining the Eaſton tract,	900	
A tract joining the above laſt mentioned tract,	3,550	
A tract on a branch of Delaware,	523	
A tract on Wallenpaupeck and Lackawaxen creeks,	810	
A tract on Lackawaxen creek,	520	
A tract on Delaware river, beyond the Blue Mountains,	395	
A tract Jonas Seely,	1,001	
A tract called Wallenpaupeck manor,	12,150	
A tract including lake Paupanauming,	215	
A tract near Dingman's ferry,	410	
A tract on Broadhead's creek,	275	
A tract in the forks of Delaware,	134	105
A tract called Safe Harbour,	2,222	
A tract called Shehocking,	520	
A tract called Damaſcus,	4,390	80
Two tracts, containing together,	2,770	
	66,031	55

Some more tracts might be here added, but being ſurveyed a ſhort time after the 4th July, 1776, and ſince ſold by the ſtate, either in part or the whole, are therefore omitted.

BEDFORD COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract called Cheſt manor,	1,123	113
A tract including the town of Bedford almoſt,	2,810	80
A tract containing	150	67
A tract in Warriors Ridge Valley,	2,473	80
A tract joining the Grindſtone or Hart's-log mountain,	2,608	
A tract between Tuſſey's mountain and Frankſtown branch of Juniata,	816	
A tract called Highlands, joining Tuſſey's mountain,	763	
A tract in Sinking creek valley,	9,056	
A tract called Nottingham,	1,035	100
A tract including fort Littleton,	119	80
A tract adjoining the Canoe mountain,	5,913	
	26,869	40

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract, called Crooked Dale, on Tunkhanna creek, containing	1,026	
A tract at the mouth of Lycaming,	579	
A tract, called Job's diſcovery,	1,615	
A tract, called Lycaming addition,	320	
A tract, called Lycaming ſecond addition,	180	
A tract, called Neſcopeck,	995	
A tract, called Waphallapane,	601	157
A tract, called the Conteſt,	1,328	
A tract, called Pomfret manor,	4,766	
A tract, called the Manor of Stoke at Wyoming,	9,800	
A tract, oppoſite to the Manor of Stoke,	20,000	
A tract, called the Indian landing,	1,866	
A tract, called Pine Grove,	4,545	
A tract, called Dundee,	3,520	
	51,141	157

WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

	Acres.	Per.
A tract, called the Manor of Pittſburgh, including the town of Pittſburgh,	5,766	
A tract, called Penn's lodge,	5,568	
A tract, called Denmark, at Buſhy Run,	4,861	
A tract, called Kittaning,	3,960	
A tract, called Cherryhill,	1,202	40
	21,357	40

ISLANDS.

	Acres.	Per.
In Schuylkill fourteen, containing 56 acres 64 perches; thirteen, containing 44 acres 40 perches; and three, containing 23 acres 12 perches,	123	116
In Suſquehanna twenty-eight, containing 3176 acres 80 perches; thirty-five, containing 849 acres; and three, containing 109 acres 105 perches,	4,135	25
At the junction of Suſquehanna and Juniata two, containing 305 acres 80 perches; and 22 acres,	327	80
In Juniata one iſland,	38	50
In Delaware,	11	
	4,635	111

Summary

Summary of the foregoing account.

	Acres.	Per.
Pennſylvania contains, - - - - - - -	27,955,200	

Deductions.

	Acres.	Per.		
Allowance for roads on the whole quantity at 6 per cent.	1,677,312			
Sales of land for which the purchaſe money has been received,	4,075,217	80		
Ditto, for an annual quit-rent without purchaſe money,	57,758	80		
Gifts by ſeveral proprietaries to ſundry branches of their families,	111,250			
Amount of appropriations of land by the proprietaries,	441,534	156		
			6,363,072	156
Balance of land, for which nothing has been received by William Penn, Eſquire, the firſt proprietor, or any of his deſcendants, - - - -			21,592,127	4

It ſeems proper here to remark, that many warrants have been iſſued, and applications entered, at different times, for conſiderable parcels of land, part of the above balance of 21,592,127 acres 4 perches, upon which large ſums were due to the proprietaries for purchaſe money, intereſt and quit-rent, in the year 1779, though the exact amount cannot be aſcertained, and for that reaſon will not be inſerted in the following eſtimate. And it is farther neceſſary to obſerve, that the lands appropriated by the proprietaries fall ſhort 2,186,253 acres 132 perches of the quantity they were entitled by the conceſſions to ſet apart and reſerve, worth about three times more than common lands not ſo reſerved; therefore theſe articles taken together, being conceived to be of greater value than any reaſonable allowance which might otherwiſe be proper to make for large waters and bad lands, are the reaſons why no ſuch allowance has been placed among the above deductions.

Computation of the arrears of Quit-rent, ſhewing the balance of thoſe arrears to March 1779, and the annual value of the ſaid Quit-rents.

It appears that very large quantities of land were ſurveyed to the firſt purchaſers between the years 1682 and 1700; and that other ſurveys have been made for them at different times ever ſince; ſome of theſe purchaſers have not got their lands ſurveyed yet, and ſome will probably never apply for their rights. It has been cuſtomary to compute the quit-rent from the date of the ſurveys on their grants, but as no quit rent has been paid on many of them, and it would be impracticable to diſcover the time when each and every ſurvey was made, it is neceſſary to aſſume ſome reaſonable period for the general commencement of the quit rent, as well for the lands which have been actually ſurveyed, as for thoſe which may happen never to be demanded, therefore the year 1700 is fixed upon for this purpoſe, which is thought the more reaſonable, conſidering that the land which may never be demanded under the rights of ſome of the firſt purchaſers will be eſtimated lower, by being charged with a quit-rent from the year 1700, than it would be, if charged as land unſold.

It appears that no charge of quit rent ſhould be brought into this computation for 14,049 acres of land ſurveyed for the London company in New-Caſtle county, in part of their grant for 60,000 acres, and that the quit rent on 45,951 acres, the remaining part of their grant, ſhould be charged after the rate of two beaver ſkins per annum for [illegible],000 acres. And that another tract purchaſed by Thomas Callowhill of 5000 acres, ſhould be charged with quit rent after the proportion of a beaver ſkin per annum for 12,000 acres; alſo that 20,000 acres, purchaſed by the free ſociety of traders, and 101,760 acres, purchaſed by ſundry other firſt purchaſers, ſhould be charged with the quit-rent of one ſhilling per thouſand acres per annum. And that 687,790 acres, which completes the whole quantity of eight hundred ſeventy-four thouſand five hundred and fifty acres, ſold to the firſt purchaſers, ſhould be charged with the quit-rent of one ſhilling per hundred acres per annum. And upon theſe principles the quit-rent computed on the ſaid eight hundred ſeventy-four thouſand five hundred and fifty acres, excluſive of the above mentioned 14,049 acres, from the year 1700 to March 1779, being

	Sterling.			Currency.		
Seventy-eight years, will be - - -	£ 27,344	5	5½	£ 45,873	15	9
It appears that the quantity of 83,003½ acres of land were ſold between the years 1682 and 1701. Upon 55,000 acres of which the quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand acres per annum was reſerved, and upon 28,003½ acres the quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres per annum was reſerved, and by an account ſtated it appears that the arrears of quit-rent due to March 1779, on the ſaid 83,003½ acres, amounts to - -	1,468	13	0	2,147	15	0
Carried over,	£ 28,812	18	5½	£ 48,021	10	9

	Sterling.	*Currency.*
Brought over,	£ 28,812 18 5½	£ 48,021 10 9
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between the 10th November, 1701, and 7th December, 1732, comprehending a ſpace of 31 years, amounts to 126,101^{3} acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt of March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to about 4,067¾ acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 126,101¾ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1701, to 1ſt March, 1732, by yearly calculations made on 4,067¾ acres, will be - -	1,009 1 0	1,681 15 0
And that the ſum due for 46 years quit-rent, computed from 1732 to 1779, on the ſaid 126,101¾ acres, will be - -	2,900 6 10	4,833 18 0
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between 7th December, 1732, and the 27th December, 1762, comprehending a ſpace of 30 years, amounts to 1,385,219¾ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one half-penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 46,174 acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 1,385,219¾ acres, computed from the 1ſt March, 1732, to 1ſt March, 1762, by yearly calculations made on 46,174 acres, will be - -	41,845 3 9	69,741 19 7
And that the ſum due for 17 years quit-rent, computed from 1762 to 1779, on the ſaid 1,385,219¾ acres, will be -	49,059 18 4	81,766 10 6½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold between the 27th December, 1762, and the 5th Auguſt, 1763, amounts to 34,254½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And that upon this quantity of land, 16 years quit-rent was due from 1ſt March, 1763, to 1ſt March, 1779, amounting to -	2,283 12 8	3,806 1 2½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold on applications, between the 5th Auguſt, 1765, and the 6th September, 1769, comprehending a ſpace of above four years, amounts to 239,932½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 59,983 acres 20 perches, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 239,932½ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1766, to 1ſt March, 1770, by yearly calculations made on 59,983 acres 20 perches, will be - - - - - -	2,499 5 11½	4,165 9 11
And that the ſum due from 1ſt March, 1770, to 1779, on ſaid 239,932½ acres, being nine years, will be - -	8,997 9 4½	14,995 15 7½
It appears that the quantity of land ſold on warrants between the 6th September, 1769, and the month of December, 1776, comprehending the ſpace of ſeven years and three months, amounts to 1,346,004½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. Admitting then, that the ſales made in each of theſe years amounted to 192,286¼ acres, it will follow, that the ſum due for quit-rent on the ſaid 1,346,004½ acres, computed from 1ſt March, 1770, to 1ſt March, 1777, by yearly calculations made on 192,286¼ acres, will be - - - -	22,433 7 11	37,388 19 10
And that the ſum due from 1ſt March, 1777, to 1779, on ſaid 1,346,004½ acres, being two years, will be - -	11,216 14 1	18,694 10 1
	171,057 18 4½	285,096 10 5½
It appears that confirmatory grants have been iſſued to ſundry Swedes for the quantity of 37,037 acres of land, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one buſhel of wheat per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the quantity of 36,296¾ buſhels of wheat was due for arrears on theſe grants the 1ſt March, 1779, which, being computed at three ſhillings ſterling per buſhel, amounts to - - - - -	5,444 10 3	9,074 3 9
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry perſons called renters, amounts to 9,087½ acres, ſubject to the annual quit-rent of one penny ſterling per acre, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated it further appears, that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit-rent to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - - - - -	3,483 10 10	5,805 18 0
Carried forward,	£ 179,985 19 5½	£ 299,976 12 2½

	Sterling.	Currency.
Brought forward,	£ 179,985 19 5½	£ 299,976 12 2½
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry ſervants of the firſt purchaſers and adventurers into Pennſylvania amounts to 4,571¼ acres, ſubject to the annual quit rent of four ſhillings ſterling per hundred acres, payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit-rent to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - - - - - - -	751 6 8	1,252 4 5
It appears that the quantity of land granted to ſundry perſons not under any of the above deſcriptions, amounts to 7,261¾ acres, ſubject to various annual quit-rents, reſpectively payable on the 1ſt March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants for quit-rent to the 1ſt of March, 1779, amounts to - - -	699 19 9	1,166 12 11
It appears that ſeveral proprietaries have granted to particular branches of their families, ſundry quantities of land, to the amount of 111,250 acres, ſubject to various annual quit-rents, reſpectively payable on the 1ſt day of March in each and every year for ever. And by an account ſtated, it further appears that the ſum due on theſe grants to the 1ſt March, 1779, amounts to - -	811 7 0	1,352 5 0
	182,248 12 10½	303,747 14 6½
Deduct the ſum of £ 106,132 7 1¾ currency, in lieu of £ 63,679 8 3¼ ſterling, being the whole amount of payments made for quit-rent between the years 1682 and 1779, on account of the lands contained in the foregoing account, excluſive of thoſe lands under the title of appropriations, which ſum has been carefully collected from all the proper books in the Receiver-General's office, - -	63,679 8 3¼	106,132 7 1¾
	£ 118,569 4 7¼	£ 197,615 7 4¾

Yearly value of Quit-rents charged on the lands contained in the foregoing account.

	Acres.		Sterling.		
On	45,951	after the proportion of two beaver ſkins for 60,000 acres, valued at ſix ſhillings ſterling each ſkin, - - - - -	£ 0	9	2¼
On	5,000	after the proportion of one beaver ſkin for 12,000 acres, valued at do.	0	2	6
On	121,760	at one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand, - - -	6	1	9
On	687,790	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred, - - -	343	17	10¾
On	25,000	at one ſhilling ſterling per thouſand, - - -	2	15	0
On	30 000				
On	28,003½	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred, - - -	14	0	0¼
On	125,101	at ditto ditto, - - - - -	63	1	0
On	1,385,219¾	at one half-penny ſterling per acre, - - - -	2,885	17	5¾
On	34,254½	at one penny ſterling per acre, - - -	142	14	6½
On	239,932½	at ditto ditto, - - - - -	999	14	4½
On	1,346,004½	at ditto ditto, - - - - -	5,608	7	0½
On	37,037½	at a buſhel of wheat per cent. is 370⅓ buſhels wheat, valued at three ſhillings ſterling per buſhel, - - - - -	55	11	0
On	9,087½	at one penny ſterling per acre, - - - -	37	17	3½
On	4,571¼	at four ſhilling ſterling per cent. - - - -	9	2	10¼
On	7,261¾	at various quit-rents, amounting to - - -	17	2	8
On	39,250	at ditto, - - - - - - -	9	12	6
On	7,000	after the proportion of one beaver ſkin for 12,000 acres, valued at ſix ſhillings ſterling each ſkin, - - - - -	0	3	6
On	10,000	at an Indian corn, - - - - -	0	0	0
On	10,000	at a red roſe for each 10,000 acres per annum, - -	0	0	0
On	10,000				
On	10,000				
On	10,000				
On	5,000	at one ſhilling ſterling per hundred acres, - - -	7	10	0
On	5,000				
On	5,000				
			£ 10,204	0	7¼

Eſtimate of the value of certain articles of property which belonged to the Hon. John Penn, *jun. and the Hon.* John Penn, *ſen. in the year* 1779.

	Sterling.		
Land in Pennſylvania, amounting to 21,592,127 acres 4 perches, for which no purchaſe money had been paid, and which, if eſtimated at ten pounds ſterling per hundred acres, viz, five pounds ſterling per hundred acres purchaſe money, and five pounds ſterling more, in lieu of one penny ſterling per acre per annum quit-rent, being the terms on which the proprietaries ſold their lands in the year 1776, will be £ 2,159,212 14 0 ſterling. And if eſtimated at ſix pounds ſterling, in lieu of ten pounds Pennſylvania currency per hundred acres without quit-rent, being the preſent terms of ſale by the ſtate, the amount will be £ 1,295,527 12 $4\frac{3}{4}$ ſterling.			
Arrears of quit-rent as ſtated in the above account, - - -	118,569	4	$7\frac{1}{4}$
Annual amount of quit-rents being £ 10,204 0 $7\frac{1}{4}$ valued at twelve years purchaſe,	£ 122,448	7	3

Articles of uncertain value.

Government, - - - - - -	0	0	0
Eſcheated lands, - - - - - -	0	0	0
Three fifths of royal mines, - - - - - -	0	0	0
One fifth of all other mines, - - - - -	0	0	0

The foregoing account done at the requeſt of the Honorable John Penn, jun. and the Honorable John Penn, ſen. Eſquires.

Errors Excepted, by me

EDMUND PHYSICK.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Antoine Baſtide,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *October* 27th, on the petition of *James Young* and *Charles Buſſelot.*

A petition from *Abraham Lukens,* read in the late Houſe *March* 6th laſt, was preſented to the chair and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl* and others, to report thereon.

A petition from the Invalid Corps doing duty in the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating, that their preſent pay is inſufficient to diſcharge the amount of their clothing, and other expences neceſſarily incurred, and praying this Houſe to grant them an augmentation of their pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from the *American* Philoſophical Society held at *Philadelphia,* for promoting uſeful knowledge, was read, praying for a donation of lands, for the purpoſe of proſecuting the diſcoveries of the various productions of this extenſive continent, and to enable them to give premiums for ſuch diſcoveries as may appear uſeful; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

A petition from the truſtees of *Franklin* college, in the borough of *Lancaſter,* was read, ſetting forth, that the public ſtore in *Queen-ſtreet,* in the ſaid borough, is falling into decay, and that *William Hamilton,* Eſquire, the preſent proprietor of the ground, hath conſented to convey the ſame, with other lots, for the benefit of the aforeſaid inſtitution, in caſe the lots upon which the ſaid ſtores are erected ſhould be veſted in the ſaid truſtees; therefore praying the ſame ſtores, with the lots appurtenant thereto, may be veſted in them and their ſucceſſors, for the uſes of the ſaid corporation; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Richards,* to report thereon.

A repreſentation from the firſt election diſtrict in the county of *Bedford,* ſtating certain illegal practices in conducting the late general election for the county of *Bedford,* was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

On motion made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

Reſolved, That the State Treaſurer and Comptroller-General do prepare and lay before the General Aſſembly, within three days after the commencement of the firſt ſeſſion in every year, ſtatements of the public accounts, made up to the firſt day of *October* preceding.

The committee appointed *October* 27th, on the petition of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian congregation of the* Big-Spring, "*in* Newtown *townſhip, in* Cumberland *county,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a ferry over the river* Suſquehanna, *at the town* "*of* Sunbury, *in the county of* Northumberland, *and veſting the right in* "John Lyon, *his heirs and aſſigns,*" which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the wages of members of the ſtate* "*Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed, and that it be the order of the day for to-morrow.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 9, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Wiley* was read, praying certificates of this ſtate, for ſervices by him done during the late war, may be received in diſcharge of his mortgage in the general loan-office; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A petition from *John Wilſon* and *Richard Swan,* Executors of the laſt will and teſtament of *William Swan,* late of *Paxton* townſhip, in the county of *Dauphin,* was read, ſetting forth, that there is due to this ſtate a balance of *two hundred and eighteen pounds eight ſhillings and eight-pence,* on account of money by him collected in the payment of taxes, and praying that certificates for money loaned to this ſtate may be received in payment; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time,

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A memorial from the Board of Managers and the Manufacturing Committee of the Society for the encouragement of manufactures and the uſeful arts in this ſtate was read, ſuggeſting the propriety of inflicting by law ſevere and heavy penalties on thoſe who ſeduce an artiſt to emigrate into a foreign country, or who export the implements and machines for the better carrying on manufactures, of which they are poſſeſſed; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr *Kennedy,* to report thereon.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for electing Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next.

A return of an election held in the county of *Berks* of a repreſentative, to ſerve in General Aſſembly in the room of *Charles Biddle,* Eſquire, was preſented to the chair, and read, whereby it appeared that *Philip Kremer,* Eſquire, was duly elected, who appearing at the table, was qualified conformably to the directions of the conſtitution, and admitted to take his ſeat.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 25th, to report a ſett of rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the depreciation of the paper currency, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill to authoriſe the truſtees of the general loan-office to receive the whole, or any part, of the monies loaned by them in virtue of the act for erecting and opening a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds*, enacted the fourth day of *April*, 1785, at any period previous to the time on which it is payable, and to alter ſo much of the ſaid act as directs them to re-lend the quotas paid in by the borrowers.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the relinquiſhment of the ſhare of the forfeiture, paſſed to the ſtate by the condemnation of the ſhip *Anna*, to *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſaid ſhip.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,

YEAS.

17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *David M'Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Samuel Maclay*,
26 *John White*,
27 *John Irvine*,
28 *Robert Lollar*,
29 *Peter Richards*,
30 *John Carſon*,
31 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *James Clemſon*,
2 *John Hopkins*,
3 *William Mitchell*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *Thomas Clingan*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Thomas Kennedy*,
9 *John Oliver*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *Philip Kreemer*,
12 *David Davis*,
13 *Joſeph Sands*,

NAYS.

14 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,
16 *John Piper*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *John M'Dowell*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M'Lene*,
26 *James M'Calmont*,

NAYS.

27 *Jacob Reiff*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Jacob Miley*,

NAYS.

30 *Robert Clark*,
31 *Hugh Davidſon*.

And the votes being equal, Mr. Speaker gave his caſting vote in the affirmative.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*”—*viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill, veſting in the Supreme Executive Council a power to mitigate or reſtore, if they deem proper, any forfeitures which may hereafter accrue to the ſtate, in conſequence of offences againſt the laws for the regulation of trade.

The Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,

YEAS.

16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *David M‘Clellan*,
24 *Joſeph Lilley*,
25 *Samuel Maclay*,
26 *John White*,
27 *Robert Lollar*,
28 *Peter Richards*,
29 *John Carſon*,
30 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *James Clemſon*,
2 *John Hopkins*,
3 *William Mitchell*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *Thomas Clingan*,
6 *David Mitchell*,
7 *Thomas Beale*,
8 *Thomas Kennedy*,
9 *John Oliver*,
10 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
11 *Philip Kremer*,
12 *David Davis*,
13 *Joſeph Sands*,
14 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
15 *Peter Burkhalter*,

NAYS.

16 *John Piper*,
17 *William Findley*,
18 *James Barr*,
19 *John Irvine*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M‘Lene*,
26 *James M‘Calmont*,
27 *Jacob Reiff*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Robert Clark*,
30 *Hugh Davidſon*.

And the votes being equal, Mr. Speaker gave his caſting vote in the affirmative.

The Houſe then adopted the report, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſhip *Anna*, forfeited to the ſtate, as ſet forth in their memorial, beg leave to report——

That the caſe of the ſaid late owners appears ſingularly hard, as the offence, in conſequence whereof the forfeiture accrued, was committed, as appears by the certificate of the court before whom the trial was had, without their participation or knowledge.

That although it may be politically expedient to conſider owners *generaly* reſponſible in point of property, for the conduct of thoſe they employ in their veſſels, yet in this caſe we conceive an exception ought to be made, as the ſhip was beyond ſea when the law, by the breach whereof ſhe became forfeited, was paſſed, and of courſe they could have no notice of it, ſo as to take cautionary meaſures for ſecuring themſelves againſt the miſconduct of the officers and mariners entruſted with the veſſel.

That all undue exerciſes of ſeverity in government are impolitic, as they defeat the purpoſes intended by them, and it is well known that ſmuggling in other countries has frequently encreaſed, in proportion to the ſeverity of trade laws: And in *England*, where theſe laws are extremely rigorous, powers of mitigation are lodged in a board of commiſſioners, who make the neceſſary diſcriminations on the ſubject.

That we do not perceive any power of reſtoring the forfeiture, either in the whole or in part, exiſts in any executive branch of government in *Pennſylvania*: And though fully ſenſible of the propriety of diſcouraging breaches of our trade laws, yet we are convinced that diſcriminations will be found proper on many occaſions. The Supreme Executive Council have a power, by the 20th ſection of the frame of government, to *remit fines* and grant pardons in all caſes, but thoſe of impeachments; yet it does not give them the right of interfering in caſes of *forfeiture*: A *fine* being a pecuniary commutation for a corporal puniſhment, and a *forfeiture* a reſumption of property loſt to the individual by breaches of the municipal laws of ſociety, and which has, *in conſequence* of ſuch breaches, become forisfact or forfeited, *i. e.* paſſed from the owner to the community. In the former caſe the Council have a right to remit, as they have to pardon the corporal puniſhment. But the right of reveſting property forfeited remains with the people, being a branch of ſovereignty not delegated to the Supreme Executive. Former legiſlatures have been ſenſible of this, and acted accordingly, as the Houſe may perceive by referring to the caſes of *Reynold Keene*, 1ſt vol. of laws, 159, 224; *Henry Hugh Ferguſon*, 446; the eſtate of *N. Vernon*, 225; *John Spering*, vol. 2, chap. 43; and in the caſe of the tumult in *Walnut-ſtreet*, *Philadelphia*, the Houſe have interfered in pardoning where fines might have been impoſed, becauſe, as is recited with much juſtice and propriety in the bill on that ſubject, vol. 1, chap. 158, " the rigorous proſecution of juſtice in all caſes is not expedient."

In the caſe referred to us we therefore beg leave to recommend to the Houſe the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill for the relinquiſhment of the ſhare of the forfeiture, paſſed to the ſtate by the condemnation of the ſhip *Anna*, to *Richard Wells* and *John Clifford*, late owners of the ſaid ſhip.

And that there may be a permanent power in the Executive, competent to conſider of and redreſs caſes of the like nature, ſuperceding the neceſſity of further interferences of the legiſlature, we beg leave further to report, that it be

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to report a bill, veſting in the Supreme Executive Council a power to mitigate or reſtore, if they deem proper, any forfeiture or forfeitures which may hereafter accrue to the ſtate, in conſequence of offences againſt the laws for the regulation of trade.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in bills conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to provide for the wages of the members of the* "*State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing the quota of troops required by* "*Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and for other purpoſes* "*therein mentioned*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 10, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from the freemen, inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, was read, praying to be annexed to the county of *Franklin*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon*, read in the late Houſe *March* 12th laſt, was preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon

A petition from *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read in the late Houſe *March* 3d laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee of accounts reported in part, that they have burnt and deſtroyed bills of credit of the emiſſion of *March* 16th, 1785, to the amount of *eleven thouſand four hundred and fifty pounds*.

A motion was made by Mr. *Kennedy*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Lene*, in the words following, *viz.*

Whereas it appears to this Houſe, by the complaint of divers of the members, ſupported by the affidavits of the Honorable *John Beard*, Eſquire, and Major *Alexander Boyd*, that on the night of *Tueſday*, the ſixth day of *November* inſtant, about midnight, a number of perſons unknown committed a violent riot and moſt outrageous aſſault upon the dwelling-houſe of the ſaid *Alexander Boyd*, in which three of the members of the Honorable Supreme

Executive Council and four of the members of this Houſe lodged, and were then abed and aſleep (until awaked by the ſaid rioters;) at the ſame time throwing out the moſt indecent and violent threats and abuſe towards the ſaid members, to the great contempt of this government, and eſpecially of the ſaid Supreme Executive Council and of this Houſe: Therefore

Reſolved, That the ſaid affidavits be tranſmitted to his Excellency the Preſident in Council, and that it be recommended to his Excellency and the Honorable members of the Supreme Executive Council to offer a reward, by proclamation, of *pounds* for the diſcovery of the perpetrators of the ſaid outrage and contempt, ſo that they may be brought to puniſhment, or of *pounds* for the diſcovery of any one of them, and that this Houſe will provide for the payment of the ſaid rewards; and that it be alſo recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to direct the Attorney-General to proſecute the ſaid rioters, and every of them, when diſcovered.

It was then moved by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

That the ſame be referred to a committee, to report thereon.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *James Moore,*
15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Willing,*

YEAS.

18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Alexander Lowrey,*
20 *Adam Hubley,*
21 *Joſeph Work,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *John Hopkins,*
24 *William Mitchell,*
25 *David M‘Clellan,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Joſeph Reed,*
28 *Thomas Clingan,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *Samuel Maclay,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *John Chapman,*
2 *James Clemſon,*
3 *David Mitchell,*
4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *John Oliver,*
7 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
8 *David Davis,*
9 *Joſeph Sands,*
10 *Philip Kreemer,*

NAYS.

11 *Peter Burkhalter,*
12 *John Piper,*
13 *John White,*
14 *William Findley,*
15 *James Barr,*
16 *John Irvine,*
17 *John M‘Dowell,*
18 *James Ailiſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*

NAYS.

21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James M‘Lene,*
24 *James M‘Calmont,*
25 *Robert Lollar,*

NAYS.

26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *Jacob Miley,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Whereupon, *Ordered,* That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *G. Heiſter,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to report thereon.

The report of the committee, appointed to report certain rules and regulations for the government of this Houſe, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the rules and regulations of the former year be adopted for the government of the Houſe during the preſent year. They are as follow, *viz.*

I. WHEN the Speaker aſſumes the Chair, the members ſhall take their ſeats.

II. At the opening of the Houſe each day, the minutes of the preceding day ſhall be read, and are then in the power of the Houſe to be corrected; after which any buſineſs addreſſed to the Chair may be proceeded to.

III. Every member preſenting a paper to the Chair, ſhall firſt ſtate its general purport.

IV. Every petition, memorial, letter, or other matter of the like kind, read in the Houſe, ſhall be deemed as lying on the table for further conſideration, unleſs any ſpecial order be moved therein.

V. A motion made and ſeconded, ſhall be repeated by the Speaker. A motion ſhall be reduced to writing, if the Speaker or any two members require it. A motion may be withdrawn by the member making it, before any deciſion is had on it.

VI. No buſineſs, regularly before the Houſe, ſhall be interrupted, but by motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement, commitment, or amendment.

VII. The motion for the previous queſtion, poſtponement or re-commitment, ſhall preclude amendment, and farther debate on the original ſubject; but the previous queſtion cannot be moved by leſs than four members.

VIII. A report laying over for conſideration, when called for, ſhall be read. If more than one be called for at the ſame moment, the Speaker may determine which to prefer. If the Speaker aſk the ſenſe of the Houſe, it ſhall be given without debate.

IX. The Speaker not to vote, unleſs the votes be equal without him.

X. No member ſpeaking ſhall be interrupted, but by a call to order by the Speaker, or by a member through the Speaker.

XI. No member to be referred to in debate by name.

XII. When debates prove tedious, four members riſing may requeſt the queſtion to be put. The Speaker ſhall then take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XIII. The Speaker may, by direction of the Houſe, enjoin ſecrecy to the members.

XIV. The Speaker himſelf, or by requeſt, may call to order any member, who ſhall tranſgreſs the rules. If a ſecond time, the Speaker may refer to him by name. The Houſe may then examine and cenſure the member's conduct, he being allowed to extenuate or juſtify.

XV. The Speaker may decide on a queſtion of order. Two members may, however, appeal to the Houſe from his deciſion: Or the Speaker may in the firſt inſtance take the ſenſe of the Houſe.

XVI. Any member, on motion, and leave given, may read a bill in his place, and, with permiſſion of the Houſe, preſent it to the Chair. It ſhall then be proceeded on as if preſented by a committee.

XVII. On a firſt reading of any matter, except a motion made by a member, no debate ſhall be had, but on the queſtion,—*Shall it lie on the table?*

XVIII. The files of the Houſe may be inſpected by the members; but no paper taken away without the Speaker's leave.

XIX. Committees may be of four kinds, *viz.*——Special committees, to be nominated by the Speaker, unleſs otherwiſe ordered. A nomination by the Speaker may be objected to and conſidered.——Committees by ballot.——Grand committees, conſiſting of a member from the city and each county; ——and Committees of the whole Houſe.

XX. Every member actually attending the ſeſſion ſhall be in his place at the time the Houſe ſtands adjourned to, or within half an hour thereof, on the penalty, if a quorum without him, of *two ſhillings and ſix-pence*, if not, of *five ſhillings*. A member having withdrawn, while the Houſe is ſitting, without leave, ſhall forfeit *five ſhillings*. Excuſes, however, may be admitted.

XXI. The name of him who makes, and the name of him who ſeconds a motion, ſhall be entered on the minutes.

XXII. No member ſhall ſpeak more than twice to a queſtion, without leave.

XXIII. Every member of a committee ſhall attend the committee, at the call of his chairman.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petition of the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on the petition of *Alexander M'Dowell*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of *ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings*, to be paid to the ſaid *Alexander M'Dowell*, as a full compenſation for his ſervices.

Ordered, That Mr. *Barr*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The committee, to whom were referred the petitions of *James Young*, *Charles Buſſelot*, *Thomas M'Intire* and *Antoine Baſtide*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be enacted into a law, for the purpoſe of affording relief to the ſaid *Charles Buſſelot*, *James Young* and *Antoine Baſtide*, reſpectively, agreeably to the prayers in their reſpective petitions contained.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, for the purpoſe of extending to the ſaid *Thomas M'Intire* the benefit of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly of this commonwealth made for the relief of inſolvent debtors.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Davis*, Mr. *Sands*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, to bring in bills conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Treaſurer of this State for the enſuing year, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, was unanimouſly elected.

The committee to whom was referred, this forenoon, the motion reſpecting the inſult offered to ſome members of this Houſe, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the motion made by Mr. *Kennedy*, reſpecting the inſult offered to ſome members of this Houſe, propoſe the following reſolution:——

Whereas complaint has been made to this Houſe by *James M‘Calmont*, *James M‘Lene*, *John Piper* and *William Findley*, Eſquires, members thereof, that on the night of *Tueſday*, the ſixth inſtant, the houſe of Major *Boyd*, of this city, in which they reſided, was riotouſly attacked by a number of perſons, to the ſaid members unknown, and themſelves abuſed and inſulted by reproachful language:

Reſolved, That ſuch outrageous proceeding is highly diſapproved of by this Houſe, and is a breach of the privilege of its members.

Reſolved, That this reſolution, together with the affidavits which the ſaid members have thought proper to produce on the ſubject, be tranſmitted to the Supreme Executive Council, and that Council be requeſted to iſſue a proclamation, offering ſuch rewards as they may deem neceſſary for apprehending the perpetrators of the ſaid outrage, in order that they may be brought to puniſhment, and that this Houſe will provide for the payment of ſuch rewards.

It was then moved by Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kreemer*,

To add the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to direct the Attorney-General to proſecute the perpetrators of the outrage aforeſaid, and every of them, when diſcovered and apprehended.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *M‘Calmont*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *John Oliver*,
7 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
8 *David Davis*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *Philip Kreemer*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Peter Burkhalter*,
13 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

14 *William Findley*,
15 *James Barr*,
16 *John M‘Dowell*,
17 *James Alliſon*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *Theophilus Philips*,
20 *John Gilchreeſt*,
21 *James M‘Lene*,
22 *James M‘Calmont*,
23 *Robert Lollar*,
24 *Peter Richards*,
25 *Jacob Miley*,
26 *Robert Clark*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*
15 *James Moore,*
16 *Richard Thomas,*
17 *Samuel Evans,*
18 *Richard Willing,*
19 *Townſend Whelen,*
20 *Alexander Lowrey,*
21 *Adam Hubley,*
22 *Joſeph Work,*
23 *James Clemſon,*
24 *Jacob Erb,*
25 *John Hopkins,*
26 *David M'Clellan,*
27 *Samuel Maclay,*
28 *John White,*
29 *John Irvine,*
30 *Alexander Wright,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott,*
34 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative, and the report adopted.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues,*" was read the ſecond time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Tueſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to provide for the wages of the members of the State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame.*

An ACT *for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Lilley* and Mr. *Clingan* be a committee, to affix the ſeal to the laws which have or may be enacted by this Houſe.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 12, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition and remonſtrance from ſeveral owners of land at and near *Wyoming* was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled "*An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying that an adequate compenſation may be given them for the lands which may be awarded to the *Connecticut Claimants*, by impartial and diſintereſted perſons, and that the payments be made by yearly inſtallments; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred, together with all the papers on the files of the late and preſent Houſe of Aſſembly relative to the ſame ſubject, to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *Kennedy*, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of this commonwealth was read, praying the price of the unlocated lands in the back parts of this ſtate may be reduced.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Conrad Latour* was read, ſtating his ſervices in the late army of the United States, for which he has not been compenſated, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl*, and others.

The petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *November* 10th, and the petition of *John Robinſon*, read *November* 7th, were ſeverally read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The petition of the inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford*, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Daviſon* and Mr. *Irwine*, to report thereon.

The committee, to whom were referred the papers relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, made a further report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That from the firſt day of *March* next, until the firſt day of *September* thereafter, the commiſſioners appointed under the act for confirming the *Connecticut* claims in the county of *Luzerne* do receive all ſuch claims for lands within the ſaid county, coming under the deſcriptions in the act as admiſſible, and which may not have been preſented to them before the expiration of the term now limited for that purpoſe; and that a committee be appointed accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 3d, relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to oblige the free male inhabitants of the ſaid county to give freſh aſſurances of their allegiance to this ſtate, and make and ſubſcribe a declaration, in which they ſhall acknowledge the right of this ſtate to extend its juriſdiction over the county of *Luzerne*, and renounce all claim to lands within the ſaid county under *Connecticut* or the *Suſquehanna* company, excepting what is intended to be confirmed to the *Connecticut Claimants* by the law for that purpoſe enacted, and in which alſo they ſhall engage to aid the officers of the county in the full execution of the law.

Ordered, That the laſt named committee bring in a bill accordingly.

The chairman of the committee on ways and means preſented to the chair a ſtate of the finances of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, as ſtated by the Comptroller-General, *viz.*

A STATE *of the* FINANCES *of the* COMMONWEALTH *of* *PENNSYLVANIA.*

I. *Of the Accounts of the United States.*

THE Congreſs of the United States, in November 1777, and at ſundry ſubſequent periods, called upon the reſpective ſtates in the union to furniſh, for the purpoſe of carrying on the war, continental money and proviſions, commonly called ſpecific ſupplies, and under theſe requiſitions various payments were made and articles of proviſions furniſhed by this ſtate; but, by an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, theſe requiſitions have been done away, and the payments and ſupplies furniſhed under them are to be carried to the credit of the reſpective ſtates by whom they were furniſhed, in their account current with the United States.

By an ordinance of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled of the 7th May, 1787, proviſion is made for examining, adjuſting, and finally liquidating the accounts current between the reſpective ſtates and the United States, whereby that great ſource of oppoſition from the ſeveral ſtates to furniſh the payments requeſted of them for the current ſupport of the federal government and the diſcharge of the debts of the union, upon the ſuppoſition by each that large balances are due to them upon theſe accounts by the United States, will be removed, and thoſe ſtates who really have ſuch balances obtain the credit to which they are juſtly entitled. The accounts of the ſtate of Pennſylvania with the United States, which are to be ſettled agreeable to the aforeſaid ordinance, are numerous and great. I have made conſiderable progreſs in ſtating and preparing them for ſettlement; and from the abilities of the gentleman appointed to receive and examine them, and his attention to that buſineſs, having ſome time ſince entered thereon, there is a happy proſpect of their being compleated in as ſhort a time as the nature of ſo voluminous a work, rendered ſtill more perplexing by the progreſſive depreciation of the currency, will admit.

By act of Congreſs of 18th March, 1780, the ſum of 195000000 dollars was called for from the ſeveral ſtates, for the purpoſe of ſinking the continental bills of credit emitted by Congreſs, payable in the ſaid bills; and as the juſt proportion of the ſeveral ſtates could not be aſcertained, and one of the ſtates (Georgia) on account of the invaſion of the enemy, was exempted by Congreſs from advancing any part thereof at that time, the quota of Pennſylvania therein was ſet at one ſixth and fifty-five hundreths of the whole; and it was declared, that when the relative value of the ſeveral ſtates ſhould be aſcertained, thoſe ſtates who ſhould have paid more than their juſt proportion of this tax ſhould be allowed a credit for the ſame, with intereſt at 6 per cent. from the time of payment; and where any ſtate had paid leſs than its juſt proportion, ſuch deficiency ſhould be charged thereto, with intereſt thereon in like manner.

The quota of Pennſylvania in ſaid requiſition, as aforeſaid, is -	*Dol.* 29900000
And at ſundry times the Treaſurer of this ſtate hath paid to the Continental Loan-Officer the full amount. - - - -	*Dol.* 29900000

There are alſo ſundry calls made by the United States in Congreſs aſſembled upon the ſeveral ſtates, for monies for the ſupport of the national government, and for defraying their debts and expences, per acts of Congreſs of 30th October 1781 and 27th April 1784, 10th September 1782, 27th September 1785, 2d Auguſt 1786, and 11th October 1787, in which, ſeverally, as the relative value of the ſeveral ſtates hath not been aſcertained, in order to apportion the quotas upon ſaid ſtates agreeable to the Articles of Confederation, proviſion is made, that when an apportionment thereof can be made, ſuch ſtates as ſhall have paid more than their juſt proportion ſhall be allowed credit therefor, with intereſt from the time of payment, and ſuch ſtates as ſhall have paid leſs ſhall be charged with ſuch deficiency, and the intereſt thereon, from the time payment was required. Theſe are called *the exiſting requiſitions*, and the quota of Pennſylvania as aforeſaid therein is as follows, *viz.*

	Payable in facilities or indents.	*To be paid in Specie.*
	Dollars.	*Dollars.*
In the requiſitions of October 1781 and April 1784, for four millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirteen hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	53441	506956
Note. On this requiſition, as the acts of Congreſs have been conſtrued, the relative proportion of Pennſylvania to be paid in ſpecie hath been greater than any other ſtate. When the quotas come to be adjuſted according to the confederation, juſtice will herein be done.		
In the requiſition of September 10th 1782, for 1200000 dollars, being one ſixth and ſixty-ſix hundredths of the whole ſum required, - -	180000	
In the requiſition of 27th September 1785, for three millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	$273585\frac{30}{90}$	$136792\frac{60}{90}$
	$507026\frac{30}{90}$	$643748\frac{60}{90}$
On the 27th July 1786, theſe accounts were adjuſted by the United States, and there appeared then to be paid on account thereof, - -	$434265\frac{70}{90}$	$580302\frac{64}{90}$
Leaving a balance then due, of - - - -	$72760\frac{50}{90}$	$63445\frac{86}{90}$
	$507026\frac{30}{90}$	$643748\frac{60}{90}$
	Facilities.	*Specie.*
Balance due as above, - - -	$72760\frac{50}{90}$	$63445\frac{86}{90}$
In the requiſition of Auguſt 2d 1786, for three millions of dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole ſum required, -	219765	296908
In the requiſition of 11th October 1787, for 1700407 dollars, being one ſeventh and thirty-one hundredths of the whole amount required to be paid into the treaſury before the 1ſt July 1788, - -	232616	
	$525141\frac{50}{90}$	$360353\frac{86}{90}$
On account of the above there hath, ſince the ſettlement in July 1786, been paid to the receiver of continental taxes till 1ſt October 1787, -	$166444\frac{58}{90}$	$62941\frac{58}{90}$
Paid to penſioners, in diſcharge thereof, - - -		$42334\frac{60}{90}$
Balance due by Pennſylvania, upon her quotas of the exiſting requiſitions,	$358696\frac{52}{90}$	$254100\frac{5}{90}$
	$525141\frac{50}{90}$	$360353\frac{86}{90}$

In which requiſitions proviſion is made for the intereſt of the foreign debt, and ſuch of the principal as may become due, till the end of the year 1788, for the intereſt of the domeſtic debt till the beginning of the preſent year, and for the ſupport and expences of the federal government until the 1ſt July 1788.

The certificates which have been received on loan by this ſtate according to the funding ſyſtem, and upon which the intereſt can be had from the United States in indents till 1ſt January 1787, will enable Pennſylvania to diſcharge this year's requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled without any tax or burthen on the people, and will be more than ſufficient to diſcharge the whole balance in indents from the ſame to the United States, upon the exiſting requiſitions.

Of the above balance of 254100 and 5-90ths dollars yet due on the exiſting requiſitions, and which muſt be paid in ſpecie, about 10000 dollars will, by the 1ſt July next, be diſcharged in the payment of penſions on account thereof, according to act of Congreſs of the 7th June 1785; and 20000 dollars more thereof will be paid within ſix months, towards a contract for ſupplying the troops of the United States ſtationed on the frontiers with cloathing.

II. *Of the Support of Government.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To pay the officers of government annually will require, on an average, about				£ 27950	0	0
And to ſupport the incidental expences of government, ſuch as printing the laws, bills, minutes, &c. of the General Aſſembly, and the other printing for the ſtate, firewood, candles, ſtationary, rewards by proclamations, attornies fees in cauſes of the ſtate, expences of the judges of the ſupreme court and attendants when on the circuit (excluſive of their expences borne by the counties where they hold courts) and for attending the ſtate-houſe clock, and ſuch like expences, about - -				5450	0	0
There will be ſundry expences incurred in the courſe of the next year for further improving the navigation of the river Delaware, and preparing more piers for ſecuring the ſhipping from ice in the river during the winter months, about	1200	0	0			
The oyl annually neceſſary for the light-houſe at Cape-Henlopen, the cotton wick, the wages of the keeper, and incidental expences thereof, and of the buoys, beacons, and piers in the river, -	773	0	0			
The wages and proviſions of the captain and men of the ſtate ſloop Delaware, in the employ of the ſtate, under the direction of the wardens of the port, and incidental repairs thereof, - -	371	0	0			
				2344	0	0
The expences of improving the navigation of the river Schuylkill, and improving the roads leading from Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, being the neat proceeds of the four claſſes of the Pennſylvania State Lottery, appropriated for that purpoſe per act of 15th March 1784, - - - -				1681	7	3
Of the £ 2000 granted per act of 21ſt September 1785, for laying out and repairing the highways from the weſtern parts of Cumberland county to Pittſburgh, there may be neceſſary in the next year, - - - - -				600	0	0
Of the £ 300 granted per act of 23d March 1786, for viewing and opening a road from the Lehigh water gap, in Northampton county, to Wyoming, - -				200	0	0
The incidental expences of the Hoſpital on State-Iſland, provided for the reception of ſuch paſſengers who may be imported into this ſtate as have infectious diſeaſes, -				90	0	0
The reſidue of the expences of opening and repairing the road from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury, per reſolution of 22d March 1784, - - -				450	0	0
Note. Part of this road, from Conrad Minick's till the line of Berks county, is to be opened per act of March 29th 1787, and the £ 200 therein granted hath been paid for that purpoſe.						
By an act of March 29th 1787, £ 500 are granted for the purpoſe of opening and eſtabliſhing a road between the navigable waters of the Franks-town branch of Juniata and the river Conemaugh, of which may be neceſſary in the next year, -				200	0	0
Balance of expences for running and marking the northern boundary of Pennſylvania,				500	0	0
				£ 39465	7	3

III. *Of the Debts due by the Commonwealth to individuals.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
I. The certificates which have been granted by this ſtate, agreeable to acts of March 1ſt 1786 and 28th March 1787, for loan-office and other liquidated certificates of the United States of debts due by the United States to citizens of Pennſylvania, counting the nominal ſum of ſuch loan-office certificates as are dated between 1ſt September 1777 and 1ſt March 1778, amount to -	£ 1900873	2	4			
The loan will remain open, agreeable to the aforeſaid act of March 1ſt 1786, until the laſt day of February 1788, incluſive, within which time, from the beſt eſtimate I can form, there will further be loaned in like manner about - -	30000	0	0			
				1930873	2	4
Of the above there hath been redeemed by the ſales of city lots, excluſive of the intereſt of ſaid certificates, - -	37326	6	1			
Ditto by the land-office, for lands granted in the old and new purchaſe, and for arrears of principal and intereſt of the purchaſe-money of lands granted by the late proprietaries, &c. excluſive of the intereſt of ſaid certificates, - -	19379	3	11			
				56705	10	0
Carried over, -				£ 56705	10	0

Brought over, -		£ 56705 10 0
Balance of certificates to be redeemed by the 1ſt March 1796, which is gradually diminiſhing by the funds in operation for redemption thereof, and which at the time of payment of the principal will be reduced about £ 63400, for the depreciation on loan-office certificates loaned as aforeſaid between Sept. 1777 and March 1778,		1874167 12 4
		1930873 2 4
II. There are arrears of intereſt from different periods due upon the ſaid certificates, which are made payable at the treaſury out of the arrears of taxes, ſo ſoon as there ſhall be ſufficient to pay one year's intereſt. The amount of the ſaid arrears upon the above balance of £ 1874167 12 4, is about - - -		229200 0 0
The ſaid arrears are alſo redeemed with the principal of the certificates upon which the ſame are due, and by this means may be computed will be ſunk, - -		80000 0 0
Balance to be paid in caſh, -		149200 0 0
III. The ſaid balance of £1874167 12 4 is alſo upon an accruing intereſt, which is payable half yearly, the annual amount of which is, - - -		112450 1 1
There was alſo an half year's intereſt payable thereupon on the 1ſt October 1787, and which is not yet diſcharged, - - - - -		56225 0 6
And 2½ years intereſt upon the part not yet loaned, payable when applied for, -		3600 0 0
		172275 1 7
Taking into view the payments that will be made in theſe certificates for city lots, for arrearages of principal and intereſt of purchaſe money of lands located or warranted before December 1776, for lands to be ſold within the old and late purchaſe, &c. &c. and alſo the times of payment of the above intereſt, there muſt of the above be redeemed in that way, ſo as to relieve the treaſury from payment of	8800 0 0	
Balance to be paid in caſh, as above, -	163475 1 7	
		172275 1 7
IV. Certificates, bearing an intereſt of 6 per cent. per annum, were by acts of April 1ſt 1784, and March 30th 1785, made iſſuable for all legal claims and debts due by the ſtate (the depreciation debt of the late army excepted) the amount whereof iſſued is, - - - - -	1688621 19 11	
And there is yet to be iſſued, - - - -	58200 7 10	
		226822 7 9
There hath been redeemed of the above, by the ſales of city lots,	504 3 3	
Ditto by the land-office, &c. - - - -	22050 1 11	
		22554 5 2
Balance to be redeemed, which is daily diminiſhing by the funds in operation for ſinking the ſame, - - - - - - -		204268 2 7
		226822 7 9
V. There is an accruing intereſt upon the above certificates, which is payable half yearly at the treaſury. Annual amount of intereſt -	12256 1 8	
One half year, due 1ſt July 1787, is yet unpaid, - -	6128 0 10	
There are four years arrears which is alſo payable on certificates not yet applied for, - - - - - -	13968 0 0	
		32352 2 6
Taking into view the payments that will be made in theſe certificates, and thereby redeemed before the foregoing intereſt is diſcharged, the treaſury will be relieved from the payment of the above intereſt, by the ſame being allowed to the poſſeſſors in their payments, ſay to amount of - - - - -	650 0 0	
Balance to be paid in caſh, -	31702 2 6	
		32352 2 6
VI. By acts of the 18th December 1780, April 10th 1781, October 1ſt 1781, April 13th 1782, April 8th 1785, September 22d 1785, and 8th March 1786, the depreciation of the pay of the Pennſylvana line, ſtate navy and military hoſpital, from the 1ſt January 1777 till 1ſt Auguſt 1780, hath been directed to be ſettled, and certificates iſſued, bearing intereſt from the 10th April 1781. Amount -		627585 11 4

Of

Of the above there hath been diſcharged, by payments of one third thereof in bills of April 1781, - - -	£ 143060	8	10			
By the ſales of forfeited eſtates there hath been redeemed of principal, excluſive of intereſt, - - -	51600	8	11			
By ſales of lots in the depreciation diſtrict, per act of 12th March 1783, there hath been redeemed as aforeſaid, - -	23240	16	9			
By the ſales of city lots, per act 8th April 1786, there hath been redeemed as aforeſaid, - - - - -	25961	3	1			
By the land-office, for land within the old and late Indian purchaſe, per acts of April 1ſt 1784 and December 1784, there hath been paid in principal, excluſive of intereſt, - -	55204	17	11			
By act of 25th March 1786, there hath eſcheated to the commonwealth, - - - - -	57540	0	0			
				356607	15	6
Balance yet unredeemed, which is daily leſſening by the payments to the land-office,				270977	15	10
				£627585	11	4

VII. Of the above balance of £ 270,977 15 10, there are certificates funded, upon which the intereſt is payable at the treaſury every ſix months, to the amount of £ 225504 4 11, agreeable to acts of 21ſt March and 20th September, 1783, 16th March 1785, and 1ſt of March 1786, the annual intereſt whereof is, -	13530	5	1
VIII. By act of November 27th 1779, the ſum of £ 130000, ſterling money of Great-Britain, was granted to the late proprietors of Pennſylvania, equal in Pennſylvania currency to - - - - -	216666	13	4

By the ſaid act, and by one other act of February 9th 1785, it was directed that the ſame ſhould be paid in annual inſtalments of £ 15000 ſterling, equal to £ 25000 Pennſylvania currrency, and that the firſt inſtalment ſhould be payable on the 3d September 1784 (one year after the termination of the war with Great-Britain.)

And by act of the 28th March 1787, it was directed that intereſt ſhould be allowed and paid from the time the ſeveral inſtalments became payable, until they were or ſhould actually be diſcharged, and by the ſame act it was declared that a preference ſhould be given in payment of the ſaid debt.

On the 3d September 1787, four inſtalments were due -	100000	0	0			
On the 3d September 1788, the fifth will become due -	25000	0	0			
The intereſt due upon the ſaid inſtalments, per act of 1787 aforeſaid, about	7800	0	0			
				132800	0	0
Of the above there hath been diſcharged - -	21368	15	0			
Remains to be paid, which is now due and to become due in the year 1788, - - - - - -	111431	5	0			
				132800	0	0

There are ſeveral thouſand pounds due by the late proprietaries for provincial taxes before the revolution, and for the taxes upon their manors and private eſtates in the ſeveral counties ſince the revolution until the preſent time, to be oppoſed to the aforeſaid balance.

And in addition to the aforeſaid five inſtalments of - -	125000	0	0			
There remains to be diſcharged, which will be payable between the 3d September 1789 and 3d September 1792, a balance of -	91666	13	4			
				216666	13	4

IX. In 1775 and 1776 bills of credit were emitted, per ſundry reſolutions of the Aſſembly of Pennſylvania, to amount of -	200000	0	0			
According to act paſſed March 20th 1777, bills of credit were emitted to amount of - - - - -	200000	0	0			
				400000	0	0
There hath been burnt and deſtroyed of the firſt denomination, -	44936	16	6			
Ditto of the ſecond denomination, - - -	54941	16	6			
Ditto of both denominations, - - - - -	71272	5	5			
In the treaſury, - - - - - -	3150	0	0			
Balance, funded on the arrears of continental money taxes, -	225699	1	7			
				400000	0	0

X. In virtue of an act of Aſſembly of 25th March 1780, bills of credit, dated 29th April 1780, were emitted, bearing an intereſt of five per cent. per annum, -	100000	0	0

Of this there hath been burnt and deſtroyed,	98873 15 0	
There is now in the treaſury, ready to be burnt,	288 5 0	
Balance, which the poſſeſſors were entitled ſince 1ſt June 1784 to have had paid them, with intereſt, but very few bills are now preſented, and the greater part of this, it is preſumed, will not be brought in,	838 0 0	
		£ 100000 0 0

XI. Bills of credit were emitted on the faith of this ſtate, per act of Aſſembly of June 1ſt 1780, in conformity with a reſolution of Congreſs of 18th March 1780, bearing intereſt at five per cent. per annum. Amount		*Dollars.* 1495000
Of the ſaid bills there is now in the treaſury of Pennſylvania	1370000	
Due by Thomas Smith, Eſquire, for a like ſum paid to the United States, in exchange therefor, in the year 1781, in bills of April 1781,	78642	
Balance to be redeemed, which the poſſeſſors are entitled ſince 1ſt January laſt to have paid them, with the intereſt,	46358	
		1495000

The bills of this emiſſion are not to be re-iſſued, and it would be well to have them counted and burnt; but before this can be done, an act of the legiſlature for the purpoſe will be neceſſary.

XII. Bills of credit to the amount of £ 500000 were ordered to be emitted per act paſſed 7th April 1781, of which there was ſtruck		486500 0 0
Of which there hath been burnt and deſtroyed	437474 9 9	
Now in the treaſury,	6777 1 9	
Balance carried down,	42248 8 6	
		486500 0 0
Balance, per the foregoing account,		42248 8 6
Yet due to ſundry perſons for certificates and balances, payable in this money, which will be iſſued,		7250 0 0
Amount to be redeemed,		£ 49498 8 6

XIII. Intereſt notes were iſſued per act of March 21ſt 1783, for paying the intereſt due to the public creditors, to amount of		*Dollars.* 166571$\frac{45}{90}$
Of which there hath been burnt and deſtroyed,	162612	
Now in the treaſury, redeemed,	3160$\frac{45}{90}$	
Balance, for which the poſſeſſors have been entitled to receive ſpecie at the treaſury ſince July 1784; few notes are now preſented, and it is preſumed moſt of this balance will never appear,	799	
		166571$\frac{45}{90}$

XIV. Bills of credit were emitted by act of the legiſlature of 16th March 1785, and by law made receivable in all the revenues and debts due to the commonwealth. Amounting to			£ 150000 0 0
Burnt and deſtroyed in the year 1786, in purſuance of ſaid act,		20000 0 0	
Now in the treaſury, to be burnt and deſtroyed,	15000 0 0		
Deficient to make up the ſum to be burnt this year,	5000 0 0		
		20000 0 0	
			40000 0 0
Balance in circulation,			110000 0 0
			150000 0 0

	State Money	*Conti. Money.*
XV. Certificates were iſſued in the year 1780, per act of June 1ſt 1780 and a reſolution of the Council, for horſes and proviſions purchaſed for the uſe of the army of the United States by agents in the different counties. Amount	32971 16 7	631361 11 3
Of which there hath been redeemed by taxes,		471142 4 7
Paid from the treaſury, excluſive of intereſt,	30341 15 7	140857 19 2
Yet due, and now payable, with intereſt, in bills of April 1781, per reſolution of Aſſembly 8th April 1782,	2630 1 0	19361 7 6
Note. The continental money is payable at 60 for one.	£ 32971 16 7	£ 631361 11 3

XVI. By act of Aſſembly of 22d September 1785, proviſion is made for the ſupport and relief of officers, ſoldiers and ſeamen, who were wounded or diſabled in the ſervice of the United States in the late war, agreeably to act of Congreſs of the 7th of June 1785, which admits the payments under this act to paſs to the credit of our account with the United States in the current requiſitions. Annual amount admitted, - £ 5530 17 0

XVII. By acts of March 1ſt 1780 and October 1ſt 1781, the widows of commiſſioned officers of the Pennſylvania line, ſtate regiments, flying camp and ſtate navy, who were killed or died in the ſervice during the late war, are entitled, during their widowhood, and their children till they attain the age of fourteen years, to the half pay of ſuch officer; and by act of March 20th 1780, the widows and families of ſuch officers and privates in the militia as were killed or died of wounds received in battle while in actual ſervice, are entitled to ſuch ſupport as the orphans court may direct, not exceeding the half pay of the perſon ſo killed. Annual amount, - - 2427 10 0

IV. *Of the Revenues of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania.*

I. The balance, which on a final adjuſtment with the United States may be found due to Pennſylvania on the unſettled accounts.

		Dollars.
II. By acts of April and December 1784, certificates of debts of the United States, due to citizens of Pennſylvania and to the Pennſylvania line, were made receivable for lands therein mentioned. Received - - -	774773$\frac{61}{90}$	
May yet be redeemed, eſtimating the balance of alienated or unfunded certificates of this ſtate's citizens now out, - - -	272600	
		1047373$\frac{61}{90}$
The certificates of debts due by the United States received on loan by this ſtate, per act of March 1ſt 1786, and yet to be loaned as aforeſaid, - - -		5148994$\frac{88}{90}$
Amount of the principal of the certificates, the property of the ſtate of Pennſylvania, including the certificates for monies loaned to the United States from September 1777 till March 1778, at their nominal value, - - - -		6196368$\frac{59}{90}$
III. The arrears of intereſt upon the aforeſaid certificates may, according to act of Congreſs of 11th October 1787, be drawn in indents till the 1ſt of January 1787. Amount whereof, excluſive of what hath been drawn, - - -		993000
IV. According to act of Congreſs, and the tenor of the certificates compoſing the aforeſaid ſum of 6196368 and 59-90ths dollars, an intereſt annually will accrue upon the ſame, payable from the United States to the ſtate of Pennſylvania in ſpecie, -		371782$\frac{13}{90}$

V. There are arrears due from ſeveral counties of their quotas of taxes laid in continental money, and payable therein, or in reſolve and commonwealth money, viz.

	£								
Bucks county,	86093	11	2						
Cheſter, -	130887	8	7						
York, -	115731	1	2						
Cumberland, -	303043	2	4						
Berks, -	32968	1	1						
Northampton, -	45616	17	8						
Bedford, -	433792	8	11						
Northumberland,	438262	16	0						
Weſtmoreland, -	586063	0	6						
				2172458	7	5			
From this ſum deduct the abatements and exonerations by law allowed the frontier counties, - - - -				690000	0	0			
Amount to be brought into the treaſury, - - -							1482458	7	5

VI. Arrearages of taxes are alſo due, payable in bills of the emiſſion of April 1781, viz.

	£								
Bucks county,	1994	9	9						
Cheſter, -	2230	5	3						
Lancaſter, -	307	8	11						
York, - -	9494	6	11$\frac{1}{2}$						
Cumberland, -	17911	16	3						
Bedford, -	7765	13	8$\frac{1}{2}$						
Northumberland, -	9750	14	3						
Weſtmoreland, -	12144	2	10						
				61198	18	11			
Allow for exonerations to the frontier counties, - -				26000	0	0			
Amount to brought into the treaſury, - -							35198	18	11

N

VII. Arrearages of taxes are alſo due, which are to be paid in ſpecie, or in bills of the new emiſſion, viz.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Philadelphia city and county,	£ 53086	0	5						
Bucks, - -	9201	19	1						
Cheſter, - -	26555	8	4						
Lancaſter, - -	51951	14	6½						
York, - -	36481	17	11						
Cumberland, - -	50069	14	2½						
Berks, - -	33991	17	0						
Northampton, -	8752	1	7						
Bedford, - -	147[illegible]6	13	2½						
Northumberland, -	25369	11	7½						
Weſtmoreland, - -	15433	7	4½						
Waſhington, - -	9986	8	10						
Fayette, - -	389	6	9						
Franklin, - -	5569	2	0						
Montgomery, - -	8366	16	9						
Dauphin, - -	4687	11	1½						
				354659	10	9			
Abatements and exonerations allowed by law in the frontiers, on account of the depredations of the ſavages during the war, -				30000	0	0			
Amount to be brought into the treaſury, - -							324659	10	9

	£	s.	d.
VIII. The annual tax upon property, per act of 16th March 1785, - -	£ 76945	17	6

If the collectors were authoriſed themſelves to diſtrain for the taxes raiſed per the ſaid act of March 16th 1785, in the ſame manner as was uſual in the caſe of former taxes, it would ſimplify and ſhorten the buſineſs much. The coſts for iſſuing and ſerving the warrants of the juſtice, in many caſes, amounts to as much as the tax itſelf. It is often difficult to get the magiſtrates to do their duty. Sometimes they get the money into their own hands, from whence it is difficult to get it. In many caſes it is dangerous to entruſt conſtables with ſo many warrants as are neceſſary to be iſſued, and money will be loſt in this way.

The collectors both of the paſt and current taxes are accountable to the county treaſurer for the taxes they receive in no more ſummary way than in the caſe of private debts between individuals, and where collectors have been ſued, nine months have elapſed before judgment againſt them could be obtained, all which time the ſtate lies out of the money. I conceive it would be uſeful to eſtabliſh a more expeditious mode of recovering the money from delinquent collectors.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
IX. The neat proceeds of the four claſſes of the Pennſylvania ſtate lottery. This is appropriated ſpecially by the act for erecting the ſaid lottery, paſſed the 15th March 1784,				£ 1681	7	3
X. The head money for paſſengers entering the port of Philadelphia, collected by the health officer, as a fund for ſupporting and keeping in repair the hoſpital on State-Iſland, for the reception of ſuch as have infectious diſeaſes, annually, -				100	0	0
XI. The tonnage upon ſhipping, received by the tonnage officer, annually, -				2450	0	0
XII. The balances due from the counties in the provincial taxes, from the 12th till the 19th eighteen-penny taxes incluſive, and including the arrears due from the late proprietaries in ſaid taxes, - - - - - -				5600	0	0
XIII. Arrearages unpaid of the tax of five ſhillings per pound, payable in ſtate money of April 1781, per reſolution of September 21ſt 1782, - - -				4500	0	0
XIV. The arrears of fines in the firſt claſs tax, payable in ſtate money of the emiſſion of April 1781, - - - - - - -				3400	0	0
XV. The arrears of principal and intereſt of the purchaſe money of land granted by the late proprietaries before 10th December 1776. *Note.* By act of March 28th 1787, three fourths of ſaid purchaſe money is made payable in funded certificates, provided they are paid before the 10th of April 1788. The amount of this fund is conſiderable, and may produce, annually, about - - - -				7500	0	0
XVI. Of the £ 150000 loan-office, erected per act February 1773, there remains of quota money, - - - -	22119	17	2			
Intereſt money now due, - - - -	17129	19	4			
				39249	16	6
XVII. The annual amount of the exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors, - -				17500	0	0

XVIII. The

XVIII. The duties on ſales by the auctioneers, payable to the ſtate,	£ 3500	0	0
XIX. The monies ariſing from tavern and marriage licences, which by act of 25th March 1785 are ſpecially charged with the ſalaries of the judges of the ſupreme court, annually,	4150	0	0
XX. Court fines and forfeitures, annually,	1000	0	0

Note. A great proportion of the *fines* and *forfeitures* which are incurred are now remitted.

XXI. The fees of the ſecretary of the council, the ſecretary, ſurveyor and receiver-general of the land-office, annually,	13800	0	0
XXII. The monies ariſing from the tax upon writs from the prothonotaries of ſeveral counties, per act of March 1783, including the tax upon writs and ſummonſes from the prothonotary of the ſupreme court, per act of September 25th 1786,	3000	0	0
XXIII. The arrearages due from the city and the ſeveral counties on the tax upon pleaſurable carriages, for 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786 and 1787,	11450	0	0

The ſum actually due upon theſe taxes is not ſo great, for the county treaſurers frequently have paid in the money collected from this tax as of the quota taxes of ſuch county, but the balances due therein are ſo much the more, as the arrears actually due hereon are leſs than the above.

XXIV. The annual tax upon pleaſurable carriages, per act 20th March 1783,	2600	0	0
XXV. The remains of the old £ 80000 loan-office, principal and intereſt,	920	0	0
XXVI. The principal of the loan-office erected per act 4th April 1785,	50000	0	0
XXVII. One year's intereſt of ſaid loan, with the arrears of intereſt due and on hand,	7160	0	0
XXVIII. The duties ariſing upon goods imported into this ſtate for one year, including the duties now outſtanding,	90000	0	0
XXIX. There are ſundry debts and balances of accounts to be recovered,	7800	0	0
XXX. The militia fines, and arrearages thereof,	35000	0	0
XXXI. The arrearages due on the ſecond claſs tax in the ſeveral counties,	8700	0	0
XXXII. There yet remains of forfeited eſtates, appropriated per act of 8th December 1780 for redeeming the certificates of depreciation, ſay	20000	0	0

XXXIII. Of the city lots, which according to act of April 8th 1786 have been ſold for funded certificates, and for depreciation certificates funded or unfunded, a conſiderable ſum of the purchaſe money hath not yet been paid, and there yet remains a part of that property to be ſold for redeeming more of the public debt.

XXXIV. Of the depreciation tract of country, directed by act of March 12th 1783 to be ſold for redemption of the depreciation certificates, a conſiderable part remains unſold, and of the part which hath been ſold a large ſum of the purchaſe money hath not yet been paid; both of which will leſſen the depreciation certificates to be redeemed.

XXXV. The neat proceeds of the ſales of the reſerved tract, and of the town laid out oppoſite Pittſburg on the northweſt ſide of the river Ohio, as directed by act paſſed September 11th 1787, will redeem a part of the public debt.

XXXVI. The purchaſe money of lands within the ſtate of Pennſylvania not yet granted, and the arrears not yet paid for that which hath been granted, affords a reſpectable fund for the redemption of the public debt of the commonwealth.

XXXVII. The eſcheats to the commonwealth is yet an untried ſource of revenue. An act hath been paſſed September 29th 1787, for ſecuring them for the public benefit, and ſomething conſiderable will eventually be produced therefrom; but as the real property cannot be ſold for ſome time, it will not be ſo immediately productive.

An Abſtract of the Debts of the Commonwealth, the Sums paid, and the Balances now due.

	Amount.			Redeemed.			Yet Due.		
The bills of April 1780, (10) -	£ 100000	0	0	£ 99162	0	0	£ 838	0	0
Ditto of June 1780, (11) -	414375	0	0	396990	15	0	17384	5	0
Ditto of April 1781, (12) -	486500	0	0	436901	11	6	49598	8	6
Ditto of March 1785, (14) -	150000	0	0	35000	0	0	115000	0	0
The treaſury notes, (13) - -	62464	6	3	62164	13	9	299	12	6
The new loan certificates, (1) -	1930873	2	4	56705	10	0	1874167	12	4
The funded debt ditto, (4) -	226822	7	9	22554	5	2	204268	2	7
The depreciation debt, (6) -	627585	11	4	356607	15	6	270977	15	10
The proprietary debt, (8) -	216666	13	4	21368	15	0	195297	18	4
Certificates for horſes and proviſions, including £631361 11 3, continental money, reduced, (15) - -	93494	10	7	93494	10	7			
Ditto of citizens of Pennſylvania, received in the land-office for lands, 774773$\frac{1}{10}$ dollars, making - -	290540	2	7	290540	2	7			
	£ 4599321	14	2	£ 1871489	19	1	£ 2727831	15	1

Recapitulation of the Revenues and Expences of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, exhibiting the ſame in a conciſe View.

In Continental Money.

The arrears of taxes due therein, (5) - - - -				£ 1482458	7	5
Contra.						
The reſolve and commonwealth money to be redeemed, (9)	225699	1	7			
Surplus, - - -	1256759	5	10	1482458	7	5

In State Money.

The arrears of quota taxes due from the counties, (16) -	35198	18	11			
The arrears of the five ſhilling tax, (13) - - -	4500	0	0			
Ditto of the firſt claſs tax, (14) - - -	3400	0	0			
One year's receipts at the land-office, in ſtate money, (15) -	7500	0	0	50598	18	11
Contra.						
Bills of this emiſſion to be redeemed, (12) - -	49598	8	6			
Surplus carried forward, which will be paid in ſpecie, -	1000	10	5	50598	18	11

In Specie.

Balance above, brought down, - - -	1000	10	5
The arrears of quota taxes due from the counties, (7) -	324659	10	9
One year's annual tax, per act 16th March 1785, (8) -	76945	17	6
The neat proceeds of the lottery, (9) - - -	1681	7	3
The duty on paſſengers arriving at Philadelphia, annually, (10)	100	0	0
The tonnage upon ſhipping, annually, (11) - -	2450	0	0
The balance due for provincial taxes, (12) - - -	5600	0	0
The £150000 loan-office due, (16) - - -	39249	16	6
The exciſe upon ſpirituous liquors, annually, (17) - -	17500	0	0
The duties on ſales at auction, annually, (18) - -	3500	0	0
The tavern and marriage licence money, annually, (19) -	4150	0	0
Court fines and forfeitures, annually, (20) - - -	1000	0	0
The fees of the ſecretary of council and land-officers, annually, (21)	13800	0	0
Carried forward, -	£ 491637	2	5

Brought

Brought forward, -	£ 491637	2	5			
The tax upon writs, annually, (22) - - -	3000	0	0			
The arrears of the tax upon pleaſurable carriages, (23) -	11450	0	0			
The tax upon pleaſurable carriages, annually, (24) - -	2600	0	0			
The £ 80,000 loan-office, (25) - - -	920	0	0			
One year's intereſt on the £ 50,000, and arrears, (27) -	7160	0	0			
Impoſts on goods imported annually, including the arrears now due, (28) - - - - - -	90000	0	0			
Debts, (29) - - - - - -	7800	0	0			
Arrearages due of the ſecond claſs tax, (31) - -	8700	0	0			
Militia fines, (30) - - - -	35000	0	0			
				£ 658267	2	5

Contra,

Due to the United States on the exiſting requiſitions, which alſo includes (article 16) the penſions to perſons diſabled in the ſervice, 254100 5/90 dollars, - - - -	95287	10	5			
Due annually to the widows and orphans of ſuch as have fallen in the ſervice, (17) - - - - -	2497	10	0			
Pay of officers of government, and incidental expences, annually,	33400	0	0			
Support of the light-houſe, &c. &c. - - -	2344	0	0			
Improving the navigation of Schuylkill, and repairing the roads leading from Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of the ſtate, -	1681	7	3			
On account of the road from Cumberland county to Pittſburg, -	600	0	0			
Ditto - from the Water-Gap to Wyoming, -	200	0	0			
Ditto - from Conrad Minick's to Sunbury, -	450	0	0			
Ditto - from Juniata to Conemaugh river, -	200	0	0			
Incidental expences of State-Iſland hoſpital, - - -	90	0	0			
Reſidue for running and marking the northern boundary, -	500	0	0			
Arrears of intereſt on new loan certificates, (2) - -	149200	0	0			
Intereſt payable within one year on ſaid certificates, (3) -	163475	1	7			
Ditto, - ditto, - on the certificates of funded debt, (5)	31702	2	6			
One year's intereſt of the funded depreciation certificates, (7) -	13530	5	1			
Due to the late proprietaries, and to become due in one year, (8)	111431	5	0			
Due of the Iſland money, (10) - - - -	838	0	0			
Ditto of the dollar money, 46,358 dollars, with intereſt, (11)	22599	5	0			
Ditto of the intereſt notes, 799 dollars, (13) - - -	299	12	6			
Ditto of the £ 20,000 directed by act of March 1785 to be burnt this year, and the next year's inſtalment to be deſtroyed, as aforeſaid, (14) - - - - -	25000	0	0			
				655325	19	4
Surplus, - - - -				2941	3	1
				£ 658267	2	5

In Indents, or Facilities.

Amount receivable for arrears of intereſt till 1ſt January 1787 upon the certificates for debts due by the United States, the property of Pennſylvania, - -		*Dol.* 993000

Contra.

Due to the United States on the exiſting requiſitions herein, -	358696 52/90	
Surplus, - - -	634303 38/90	
		Dol. 993000

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Comptroller-General's Office,
November 7th, 1787.

Ordered, That one hundred and fifty copies thereof be printed, for the uſe of the General Aſſembly.

The report of the committee on the petition of the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, read *November* 10th, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to veſt the public ſtore in the town of *Lancaſter,* and the two lots of ground on which the ſame is erected, in the Truſtees of *Franklin* College, for the uſe thereof.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Richards* be a committee, for the purpoſes contained in the foregoing reſolution.

The report of the committee, read *November* 9th, relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on Lake *Erie,* was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be authoriſed and requeſted to obtain, and lay before the General Aſſembly, a deſcription of the lands lying between the northern boundary of this ſtate and Lake *Erie,* with an eſtimate of the ſum neceſſary to purchaſe ſuch part thereof as may be thought neceſſary to accommodate this ſtate.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for erecting a permanent* "*bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity of the* High-"ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia;" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 13, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks* was read, praying that a part of the lands ſet apart for the endowment of public ſchools may be granted for the benefit of a public ſchool in the borough of *Reading.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed to inſpect the files of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, *&c.* made a further report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the report on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the borough of *Reading,* read *September* 14th laſt, be referred to Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *J. Heiſter,* Mr. *Trexler,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real* "*eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other* "*ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

Ordered, That the report read in the late Houſe *September* 27th laſt, on the petition of *Humphrey Fullerton,* be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

The petition of *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, read *November* 8th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Delegates to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *William Irvine, Samuel Meredith, John Armſtrong,* junior, *William Bingham* and *James R. Reed,* Eſquires, were duly elected.

The committee appointed *November* 10th, on the petition of *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for the regulation of auctions and vendues;*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, "*to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 14, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* in behalf of themſelves and others, the comedians, commonly called the *American Company,* was read, praying leave to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of repealing ſo much of the laws of this commonwealth as prohibits dramatic entertainments.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from the college of phyſicians of *Philadelphia* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, for checking the improper uſe of diſtilled ſpirituous liquors within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Bond* and others, late officers in the *American* Military Hoſpital, was read, referring to their memorial read in the late Houſe *March* 7th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl,* and others.

A petition from *James Pettigrew* and *Blackall William Ball* was read, ſetting forth, that they have loſt the certificates given to them for the depreciation due on their pay, and praying new ones may be granted them in lieu of thoſe which they have loſt; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from 150 inhabitants of *Wayne* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, praying they may be exonerated from the payment of the taxes aſſeſſed on them in the years 1781 and 1782.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Berks* county, to report thereon.

The committee of accounts made a further report, that they had burnt and deſtroyed the ſum of *ſix thouſand two hundred pounds* of the emiſſion of *March* 16th, 1785, agreeably to law, which, with the ſum by them reported on *Saturday* laſt to have been burnt, amounts to *ſeventeen thouſand ſix hundred and fifty pounds.*

On motion of Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Clark*,

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to reviſe the preſent militia law, and report a bill for the better regulation of the militia of this commonwealth.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of the repreſentatives of *Ann Nedrow*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, on the petition of the *American* Philoſophical Society, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the purpoſe of granting to the *American* Philoſophical Society acres of unappropriated lands, as a fund for the laudable purpoſes ſet forth in their memorial.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *November* 8th, reſpecting the late election of Repreſentatives for the county of *Bedford*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the repreſentation of the judges of the firſt election diſtrict of the county of *Bedford*, ſetting forth, that in drawing the votes a ticket appeared, in which the names of *John Piper* and *Jacob Saylor* were mentioned as members of Aſſembly, but the ticket not being cut according to law, it was not counted, yet was cauſed to be filed with the other tickets, by means of which ſaid ticket not being counted, ſaid *Jacob Saylor* and *Abraham Cable* had an equal number of votes, which would not have otherwiſe been the caſe; and as it is the opinion of your committee that an election ought not to be ſet aſide for ſo trifling a neglect as not cutting the ticket according to law, at leaſt where no fraud appears to have been intended, they therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That *Jacob Saylor* is duly elected a member in the General Aſſembly for the county of *Bedford* for the enſuing year, and that he be directed to take his ſeat accordingly.

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral papers relative to the diſturbances in the county of *Luzerne*, made a further report in part, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Executive Council apppoint two perſons, one on the part of the ſtate, the other on the part of the ſaid *Pennſylvania Claimants*, and on the recommendation of them, or any conſiderable number of them, which two perſons ſhall chooſe a third.

Reſolved, That the ſaid three perſons ſhall be Commiſſioners, to examine into the value of the lands for which compenſation is to be made, and certify the ſame to the Board of Property, who ſhall finally determine on the ſame.

Reſolved, That the ſaid Claimants ſhall ſeverally have an option, to accept the compenſation in the reſiduum of the donation lands, or in any other public lands within the old or new purchaſes, not reſerved for the uſe of the commonwealth; or otherwiſe, in certificates to the amount, payable in inſtalments, and bearing an intereſt.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *G. Heiſter* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolutions.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, to enable commiſſioners therein to be named to lay out, in the improvement of the roads between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern parts of the ſtate, the monies ariſing from the lottery lately drawn in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly for raiſing, by way of lottery, the ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads weſtward of the city, and towards improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*, paſſed the 15th *March*, 1784.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Wynkoop* and Mr. *J. Heiſter* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots of ground in the borough and* "*county of* Lancaſter *in the Truſtees of* Franklin *College, for the uſe of the ſaid* "*inſtitution,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to veſt in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford *the ſhare or portion of the* "*ſhip* Anna, *lately forfeited to the ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to veſt in the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate a power to remit, ei-* "*ther in the whole or in part, any forfeiture or forfeitures accrued to the ſtate* "*under the laws for the regulation of trade,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* "An Act for erecting and opening "a loan-office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſubſcribers to the plan for* "*erecting a permanent bridge over the river* Schuylkill, *at the weſtern extremity* "*of the* High-ſtreet *of the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain* "*tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of* "Philadelphia *and* Cheſter, *to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood-gates in* "*repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 15, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from the Honorable *Francis Hopkinſon,* Eſq; was read, praying, that when this Houſe ſhall paſs an act for the regulation of fees, a clauſe may be inſerted for veſting the Judge of Admiralty with the fees of his office, which are now made payable to the treaſury; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Hubley* and Mr. *Piper,* to report thereon.

A petition from *David Hillyer,* late quarter-maſter ſerjeant in the invalid regiment commanded by Colonel *Nichola,* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath not received the gratuity of eighty dollars promiſed to thoſe who continued in the ſervice until the end of the war, and praying this Houſe to direct payment thereof to be made to him; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A petition from *Thomas Prieſt* was read, praying this Houſe to grant him an annual ſum of money, to enable him to carry the mail between the city of *Philadelphia* and the weſtern counties of this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A propoſal from *John Skinner,* of the county of *Franklin,* was preſented to the chair, and read, engaging, on the part of himſelf, his heirs and aſſigns, to keep and maintain the ſtate high-way in the ſame deſcribed in good repair, provided that he, his heirs and aſſigns, may by law be diſcharged from the payment of taxes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of manufacturers and others, dealers in coal, was read, praying that the admeaſurement of coal may be put under the direction of the officer already appointed for the admeaſurement of ſalt, *&c.* and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Will* and Mr. *M'Lene,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petition of 150 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Wayne* and *Derry,* in the county of *Cumberland,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Oliver,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The petition of *Lewis Hallam* and *John Henry,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—"*Shall the ſame be referred to a committee?*"

It was carried in the negative.

The committee appointed *November* 12th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Air* townſhip, in the county of *Bedford,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 2d, on the petition and remonſtrance of a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Moyamenſing* and *Paſſyunk*, in the county of *Philadelphia*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the town of *Weſt-Cheſter*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Berks*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of the repreſentatives of *Ann Nedrow*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M^{c}Dowell," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting* *thouſand acres of unappropriated land in the incorporated* American *Philoſophical Society, held in* Philadelphia, *for promoting of uſeful knowledge*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of the peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections; and to authoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city; and to make further proviſion for the due election and return of juſtices of the peace elect*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Thomas M'Intire, James Young, Antoine Baſtide *and* Charles Buſſelot, *inſolvent debtors, now confined in the gaol of the city and county of* Philadelphia," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, November 16, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland* were read, praying for a diviſion of ſaid county.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others, made report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 3d, on the petition of *Margaret Davis*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an Act, entituled* " An Act for aſ- " certaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, " the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other " purpoſes therein mentioned," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the Act, entituled* " An Act to alter " and amend an Act, entituled " *An Act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral* " *Acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of juſtices of* " *the peace throughout this ſtate, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding* " *ſuch elections*; *and to authoriſe the juſtices of the peace of the city of* Philadel- " phia *to hold the courts of record of the ſaid city*; *and to make further proviſion* " *for the election and return of juſtices of the peace elect*;" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to morrow, A. M.

Saturday, November 17, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *John Carſon*, Eſquire, in excuſe for his non-attendance, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Maclay* have leave of abſence during the remainder of the preſent ſeſſion.

A petition from *Garret Broadhead* and *Cornelius Vanhorne*, in behalf of themſelves and others, was read, remonſtrating againſt the act, entituled " *An Act* " *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim- " ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other* " *purpoſes therein mentioned*," and praying the operation thereof may be ſuſpended.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* was read, praying a further time may be allowed them to preſent their claims to the commiſſioners appointed under the act above recited.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Zebulon Butler* was read, ſetting forth, that in conformity to the act, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *for* "*pardoning certain offenders, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" he ſurrendered himſelf, and entered into a recognizance, with one ſurety; that notwithſtanding his ſurrender aforeſaid, a ſuit was inſtituted againſt him for a certain treſpaſs ſaid to have been committed, and judgment awarded thereupon for a conſiderable ſum of money; and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the Supreme Executive Council to take immediate meaſures for locating and ſurveying ſixty thouſand acres of land, for the uſe of public ſchools, agreeably to the law paſſed the 7th day of *April*, 1785.

The committee of accounts made a final report, that they had at different times during the preſent ſeſſion received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, the following bills of credit, emitted by act of General Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth day of *March*, 1785, *viz.*

7295 bills of *twenty ſhillings* each, - -	£ 7295	0	0
9000 ditto of *fifteen ſhillings* each, - - -	6750	0	0
6000 ditto of *ten ſhillings* each, - - -	3000	0	0
6600 ditto of *five ſhillings* each, - - -	1650	0	0
4800 ditto of *two ſhillings* and *ſix-pence* each, - -	600	0	0
4800 ditto of *one ſhilling* and *ſix-pence* each, -	360	0	0
6800 ditto of *nine-pence* each, - - -	255	0	0
7200 ditto of *three-pence* each, - - -	90	0	0
	£ 20000	0	0

All which they have examined, counted and burnt, according to law.

The report of the committee on the petition of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to withdraw their petition.

The report on the meſſage of Council, reſpecting the claim of Colonel *Francis Mentges*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time:

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the following reſolution?*"—

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing and empowering the Comptroller to iſſue a certificate to ſaid Colonel *Mentges* for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, bearing intereſt from the day , as a compenſation for his ſervices.

It was carried in the negative.

The report read yeſterday, on the petition of *Devereux Smith*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Weſt-Cheſter*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, conſtituting a certain diſtrict of country, contiguous to ſaid court-houſe, the county town, bounded as ſet forth in their petition, and called *Weſt-Cheſter.*

Ordered, That the members from *Cheſter* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The report read *November* 15th, on the petition of divers inhabitants of *Moyamenſing, &c.* was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be re-committed.

The committee, to whom was re-committed this forenoon the report on the petition of divers inhabitants of the county of *Berks,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for the eſtabliſhment of a ſeminary of learning, agreeably to ſaid petition, and for the endowment of the ſame with   acres of the unappropriated lands within this commonwealth.

Ordered, That the members from *Berks* county be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots* " *of ground in the borough and county of* Lancaſter *in the truſtees of* Franklin " *College, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entituled " *An Act authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw* " *an order on the treaſurer of this ſtate for the ſum of* ſeventy-nine pounds ten " ſhillings, *in favor of* Alexander M'Dowell," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill entituled " *An Act for veſting*   *thouſand acres of unappropri-* " *ated lands in the incorporated* American *Philoſophical Society for promoting of* " *uſeful knowledge,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting and " opening a Loan-Office for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds,*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, November 19, 1787. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *John Penn,* junior, and *John Penn,* Eſquires, was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the Repreſentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania.

The Memorial of JOHN PENN, *junior, and* JOHN PENN,

Reſpectfully Sheweth,

THAT by the act of Aſſembly paſſed in the year 1779, veſting the proprietary eſtate of your memorialiſts in the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* their lands, known by the name of *Proprietary Tenths* or *Manors,* were excepted, and confirmed to them.

That by the negligence of your memorialiſts' ſurveyors and other ſervants, the ſurveys of divers of the aforeſaid tenths or manors were not made and regularly returned into the land-office on or before the 4th day of *July,* 1776, although the warrants for that purpoſe had been iſſued long before that period, by means of which negligence the property of your memorialiſts in many of the ſaid tenths or manors, which have heretofore been poſſeſſed by them as ſuch, has become doubtful.

Your memorialiſts, being firmly perſuaded that the intention of the above-mentioned act was to confirm to them all ſuch tenths or manors, as, by warrant or other act of appropriation, had been excepted and ſeparated from the public proprietary eſtate before the period of *American* independence, therefore beg leave to lay before you an account of ſuch manors and tenths as were not ſurveyed and returned into the land-office on or before the 4th of *July,* 1776, and pray the Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to confirm the ſame to them.

And your memorialiſts beg leave further to repreſent to your Honorable Houſe, that, by the above-mentioned act of 1779, beſides the aforeſaid tenths or manors, there was reſerved to the late proprietaries all their private eſtates, lands and hereditaments, which they were then entitled to in their private capacity, by deviſe, purchaſe or deſcent, and that, ſince the paſſing of the ſaid act, doubts have ariſen, whether, by the general terms made uſe of in the ſame, the ſaid act has ſufficiently confirmed to your memorialiſts all ſuch eſtates as they then poſſeſſed or were entitled to by purchaſe, of themſelves or their anceſtors, from ſuch perſons as held the ſame by virtue of ſome prior warrant, ſurvey or location: Your memorialiſts therefore pray the Honorable Houſe will, by an explanatory clauſe, confirm to them all the ſaid private eſtates, lands and hereditaments.

And your memorialiſts, fully relying on the inclination of the Honorable Houſe to relieve them from the loſſes they have ſuſtained by the late revolution, as far as is conſiſtent with the preſent ſituation of the commonwealth, beg leave further to inform the Honorable Houſe, they have lately had conſiderable demands made on them for arrears of taxes on the aforeſaid tenths or manors and private eſtates, which, if they are compelled to pay, would be ſtill adding to their loſs, which has been already ſo great. Your memorialiſts therefore pray your Honorable Houſe will be pleaſed to exempt them from the payment of all ſuch taxes, as were due and in arrear from them on or before the 1ſt day of *January,* 1787.

JOHN PENN, junior,
JOHN PENN.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

A petition from *James Young*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth, that his caſe is differently circumſtanced from thoſe other inſolvents whoſe names are inſerted in the ſame bill with his, inaſmuch as he hath on oath aſſigned his property to truſtees, for the payment of his juſt debts; therefore praying that ſuch reviſal or amendment may take place in ſaid bill, as will extend to him ſuitable relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom were referred the ſeveral petitions of *Nicholas Krell*, and others, made a further report in part, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Zebulon Butler*, read *November* 17th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Clingan* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to the Act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the meaſurement " of corn, and ſalt imported into the port of *Philadelphia*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act to alter and* " *amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting and opening a loan-office for " the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an Act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them " claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," and that it be the order for the day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, November 20, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a committee, choſen by the inhabitants of *Pittſburgh* and the neighbouring country, was read, referring to the petitions to former Houſes of Aſſembly, and praying that parts of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* may be erected into a new county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* was read, praying the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid county may be fixed and eſtabliſhed at *Hanna's-town*, as being the moſt eligible place for that purpoſe within the ſame county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the petitions of a ſimilar tenor remaining on the files of the General Aſſembly, be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A letter from the Honorable *George Woods*, Eſquire, incloſing certain papers controverting the petition of *Lewis Kaſſelman*, read in the late Houſe *September* 7th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *Zebulon Butler*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl* and others, was read the ſecond time, and the reſolution in part adopted, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That *David Woelper*, the corps of invalids, *Nicholas Krehl*, *Daniel Murphy*, *John Wiley*, *John Wilſon* and *Richard Swan*, *Henry Brink* and *William Van Gorder*, and *John Conrad Latour*, have leave to withdraw their reſpective petitions.

Ordered, That the reſidue of the ſaid report, relative to the claim of *Abraham Lukens*, be re-committed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for erecting a certain diſtrict of country, in which the court-houſe in* " Cheſter *county ſtands, into a county town*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *A* " *Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for raiſing, by way of lottery, the " ſum of forty-two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads leading " from the city of *Philadelphia* to the weſtern parts of this ſtate, and towards " the improving the navigation of the river *Schuylkill*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to incorporate and endow an academy or public ſchool in the borough of* " Reading, *in the county of* Berks," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the meaſurement of corn, and ſalt imported into the port of *Philadelphia*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy*,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and " confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by " them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes there- " in mentioned," and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, November 21, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Ettwein* and *John Meder,* on behalf of the members of the Epiſcopal Church of the United Brethren, who have formed themſelves into a ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the heathen, praying to be incorporated, was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the prayer thereof be granted.

Petitions from 753 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette,* read in the late Houſe *September* 13th laſt, were preſented to the chair, and read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *G. Heiſter,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Irvine,* Mr. *M‘Dowell,* Mr. *Philips* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

A petition from 93 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the ſouthern parts of the ſame may be erected into a new county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The memorial of the College of Phyſicians of the city of *Philadelphia,* read *November* 14th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Foulke,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, for apportioning to the city of *Philadelphia,* and to each county within this commonwealth, their ſeveral and reſpective ſhares or proportions of ſixty thouſand acres of public land, reſerved for the uſe of public ſchools by act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſeventh day of *April,* one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſix; and for cauſing the ſaid city and each county to pay the neceſſary expences attending the taking up their reſpective proportions of the ſame.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *M‘Lene,* Mr. *Lollar,* Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *Clark* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred, *November* 13th, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe real eſtates within this commonwealth, and to lend money upon mortgages and other ſecurities, at a reaſonable intereſt,*" made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *October* 29th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the expediency of granting a further time for the application of the officers and ſoldiers of the late *Pennſylvania* line to draw for and take up lands, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Willing* and Mr. *Barr,* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to encourage the manufactures of this ſtate,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to veſt in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford *the ſhare or portion of the ſhip* Anna, *lately forfeited to the ſtate,*" was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

It was moved by Mr. *M‘Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill until to-morrow.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Calmont* and Mr. *M‘Dowell,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Will,*
2 *William Mitchell,*
3 *Joſeph Reed,*
4 *Joſeph Lilley,*
5 *David Mitchell,*
6 *Thomas Beale,*
7 *Thomas Kennedy,*
8 *John Oliver,*
9 *David Davis,*
10 *Joſeph Sands,*
11 *Philip Kreemer,*
12 *Peter Burkhalter,*
13 *John Piper,*
14 *William Findley,*
15 *James Barr,*

YEAS.

16 *John Irvine,*
17 *John M‘Dowell,*
18 *James Alliſon,*
19 *Alexander Wright,*
20 *John Flenniken,*
21 *Theophilus Philips,*
22 *John Gilchreeſt,*
23 *James M‘Lene,*
24 *James M‘Calmont,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *Jacob Miley,*
29 *Robert Clark,*
30 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *Richard Peters,*

NAYS.

7 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
8 *John Chapman,*
9 *Samuel Foulke,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*

NAYS.

13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*

NAYS.

21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *David M'Clellan,*
24 *Thomas Clingan,*
25 *John White,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 22, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A remonſtrance and petition from the Managers of the Houſe of Employment and the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia*, and diſtricts connected therewith, was read, ſuggeſting divers alterations and amendments to the Poor laws now in force, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members for the city and county of *Philadelphia*, to report thereon.

A petition from ſeveral members of a committee of the public creditors was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled,* "An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called "*Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," praying that ſo much of the ſaid bill, as directs the payment of the equivalent to the *Pennſylvania Claimants* of lands in the county of *Luzerne* out of the funds heretofore appropriated, may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was re-committed, *November* 13th, the report on the petition of *John Elder* and *Robert Stevenſon*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee on ways and means, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That an additional duty of *two-pence* per-gallon be laid on *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per gallon be laid on all wines imported in caſks, other than *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all bohea teas imported; that an additional duty of *three-pence* per pound be laid on all teas imported, other than bohea teas; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported.

It was moved by Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To add, at the end of the ſaid reſolution, the words, "*That an additional duty of* ſix-pence *per buſhel be laid on all ſalt imported.*"

On the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Clemſon*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Townſend Whelen,*
13 *Alexander Lowrey,*
14 *Adam Hubley,*
15 *Joſeph Work.*

NAYS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *John Chapman,*
3 *Samuel Foulke,*
4 *Valentine Upp,*
5 *Robert Ralſton,*
6 *James Moore,*
7 *James Clemſon,*
8 *Jacob Erb,*
9 *John Hopkins,*
10 *William Mitchell,*
11 *David M‘Clellan,*
12 *Joſeph Lilley,*
13 *Joſeph Reed,*
14 *Thomas Clingan,*
15 *David Mitchell,*
16 *Thomas Beale,*
17 *Thomas Kennedy,*
18 *John Oliver,*
19 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
20 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
21 *David Davis,*
22 *Joſeph Sands,*
23 *Philip Kreemer,*
24 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
25 *Peter Burkhalter,*
26 *John Piper,*
27 *John White,*
28 *William Findley,*
29 *James Barr,*
30 *John Irvine,*
31 *John M‘Dowell,*
32 *James Alliſon,*
33 *Alexander Wright,*
34 *John Flenniken,*
35 *Theophilus Philips,*
36 *John Gilchreeſt,*
37 *James M‘Lene,*
38 *James M‘Calmont,*
39 *Jacob Reiff,*
40 *Robert Lollar,*
41 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
42 *Peter Richards,*
43 *Jacob Miley,*
44 *Robert Clark,*
45 *John Paul Schott,*
46 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The Houſe then fully debated the ſaid report, and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means report,——

That having obtained from the Comptroller-General a ſtatement of the debts and revenues of the commonwealth, they find,

That the debts now due, and that will become due in the year 1788, amount to - -	£ 3,250,947 0 0
And that the engagements of the ſtate for the year 1788, excluſive of the requiſition of Congreſs, amount to - - -	£ 475,706 0 0

The requiſition of Congreſs for the year 1788 amounts to 358,696 dollars in facilities, and 254,100 dollars in ſpecie.

The means relied on for the eventual payment of the principal, and the payment of the annual intereſt and expences, are

1ſt. The balance that will be due from the United States upon the final adjuſtment of accounts.

2d. The public lands.

3d. The arrears of purchaſe money due for lands bought of the late proprietaries.

4th. Arrears of taxes due to the commonwealth. And

5th. The annual taxes and revenues.

With reſpect to the firſt, no computation can be formed with any certainty. But ſuppoſing this ſtate to have furniſhed ſupplies during the war in the ſame proportion with the other ſtates, and admitting it to be chargeable with its proportion of the exiſting debt, foreign and domeſtic, it would ſtand nearly as follows:

Amount of debt due by the United States, -	*Dol.* 38,000,000
The proportion of *Pennſylvania*, one eighth, -	*Dol.* 4,750,000
The ſtate has poſſeſſed itſelf of certificates of the United States to amount of 6,196,368 dollars, which exceeds her proportion, - - - -	*Dol.* 1,446,368
Balance of intereſt due, after diſcharging the requiſition of 1787, - - - -	380,264
	Dol. 1,826,632

She will, moreover, be entitled to an annual intereſt of 86,752 dollars upon the above ſum of 1,446,368 dollars, over and above her full quota of the intereſt on the foreign and domeſtic debt.

It may be remarked here, that Congreſs have already ſold ſome millions of acres of the public lands, which of courſe leſſens the debt due by the United States, and increaſes the balance due to *Pennſylvania*. Nevertheleſs, we are called upon for our full proportion of the intereſt of the foreign debt, and of the expence of the fœderal government.

The ſecond means mentioned is the public lands,——and theſe muſt no doubt produce a conſiderable ſum; but as certificates are made receivable for the payment, and the quantity offered by the United States, as well as the individual ſtates, is great, this can only operate hereafter towards the redemption of the capital.

The third fund is the arrears of purchaſe money due to the late proprietaries, the extent of which has never been aſcertained, but is ſaid to be conſiderable. Three fourths of it is by law made receiveable in certificates, the other one fourth in the money of 1780, ſo that this can only operate to the redemption of the capital.

A fourth revenue relied on is the arrears of taxes, which is ſtated to amount to £ 380,419. Theſe appear to be due in very unequal proportions by the different counties in the ſtate; and the committee have reaſon to believe that there are great neglects in the perſons appointed to the collection, and that large ſums which have been collected are with-held from the public treaſury.

ury. By the means now in operation, and ſome improvements which may e adopted, the committee are informed that there may be relied on for the nſuing year, from this fund,

nſuing year, from this fund,	£ 75,000	0	0
Annual tax upon property,	76,945	0	0
Duty on tonnage and paſſengers,	2,550	0	0
Produce of the exciſe,	16,000	0	0
Duty on ſales at auction,	3,500	0	0
Tavern and marriage licences,	4,450	0	0
Court fines and forfeitures,	1,000	0	0
Fees of the Secretary and land-office,	13,800	0	0
Tax upon writs,	3,000	0	0
On pleaſurable carriages,	2,600	0	0
On impoſt,	60,000	0	0
Debts due to the ſtate,	7,800	0	0
The eſtimate of arrears being made upon returns from the treaſury to the 1ſt *November*, it is preſumed that payments will be made from that time to the 31ſt *December* next, to amount of	40,000	0	0
Whole amount for the year 1788,	£ 306,645	0	0

From hence it appears, that there will be a deficiency in the preſent funds for making good the engagements of the ſtate for the year 1788, of £ 73,774, excluſive of the requiſition of Congreſs.

However deſirous the committee are of providing for this deficiency, upon the fulleſt conſideration of the ſubject, they can only recommend, that the funds already appropriated to theſe ſeveral demands ſhould be faithfully applied thereto, and rely on the operation of the meaſures taken for ſinking the capital.

With reſpect to the requiſition of Congreſs for ſpecie, the committee obſerve, that as the ſtate is creditor to the United States for a ſum beyond her proportion of the aggregate debt, it would be unjuſt to burthen the good people of this commonwealth to make good the deficiencies of other ſtates. Nevertheleſs, the committee, finding a principle laid down by a former committee, and acceded to by the Houſe of Aſſembly, *to wit*, That the ſtate ſhould contribute its quota towards the ſupport of the fœderal government, they recommend that the preſent Houſe make proviſion for that purpoſe.

By the eſtimate of 1787, it appears that the quota of this ſtate for that purpoſe amounts to 59,780 dollars, equal to	£ 22,417	10	0
There will likewiſe be wanted, to raiſe and ſupport a force deſtined to quiet the diſturbances in *Luzerne* county,	—	—	—

The committee, adhering to their principle of leaving untouched the funds of the ſtate already appropriated, and believing that it would be improper to increaſe direct taxation, propoſe the following means:——

That the preſent exciſe be doubled; that an additional duty of *two-pence* per gallon be laid on *Madeira*, and *one-penny* per gallon on all other wines; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported; *one-penny* per pound on all bohea teas, and *three pence* per pound on all other teas.

The committee, not having the means of eſtimating accurately the produce of theſe duties, alſo recommend, that if the ſum raiſed therefrom ſhall not be ſufficient, that the Houſe agree to lay other duties, to make good the deficiency.

In conformity with which the committee ſubmit the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a plan for the better collection of the taxes.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the duties on Exciſe be doubled.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *M'Lene,* and Mr. *Lollar* be a committee, to bring in a bill for that purpoſe.

Reſolved, That an additional duty of *two-pence* per gallon be laid on *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per gallon be laid on all wines imported in caſks, other than *Madeira* wine; that an additional duty of *one ſhilling* per dozen be laid on all wines imported in bottles; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all bohea teas imported; that an additional duty of *three-pence* per pound be laid on all teas imported, other than bohea teas; that an additional duty of *one-penny* per pound be laid on all coffee imported.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Logan* be a commitee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That the duties aforeſaid be ſpecially appropriated for the diſcharge of this ſtate's quota of the expence of the Fœderal Government, and for defraying the expence of the troops to be raiſed for quieting the diſturbances at *Wyoming,* and ſhall continue for one year only.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed, to report a plan for the better collection of the Exciſe.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Reſolved, That if the funds propoſed by the foregoing reſolutions ſhall be found deficient, the Houſe will make good, by other funds, ſuch deficiency.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Findley,*

Ordered, That the proceedings of the late Fœderal Convention, containing the conſtitution by them propoſed for the government of the United States, as officially tranſmitted from the United States in Congreſs aſſembled by the honorable Executive Council, with their meſſage of *October* 27th laſt, be inſerted on the journals of this Houſe.

WE, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, eſtabliſh juſtice, inſure domeſtic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and ſecure the bleſſings of liberty to ourſelves and our poſterity, do ordain and eſtabliſh this CONSTITUTION for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1. ALL legiſlative powers herein granted ſhall be veſted in a Congreſs of the United States, which ſhall conſiſt of a Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives.

Sect. 2. The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall be compoſed of members choſen every ſecond year by the people of the ſeveral ſtates, and the electors in each ſtate ſhall have the qualifications requiſite for electors of the moſt numerous branch of the ſtate legiſlature.

No perſon ſhall be a repreſentative, who ſhall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and been ſeven years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate in which he ſhall be choſen.

Repreſentatives and direct taxes ſhall be apportioned among the ſeveral ſtates which may be included within this Union, according to their reſpective numbers, which ſhall be determined by adding to the whole number of free perſons, including thoſe bound to ſervice for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other perſons. The actual enumeration ſhall be made within three years after the firſt meeting of the Congreſs of the United States, and within every ſubſequent term of ten years, in ſuch manner as they ſhall by law direct. The number of repreſentatives ſhall not exceed one for every thirty thouſand, but each ſtate ſhall have at leaſt one repreſentative; and until ſuch enumeration ſhall be made, the ſtate of New-Hampſhire ſhall be entitled to chuſe three, Maſſachuſetts eight, Rhode-Iſland and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York ſix, New-Jerſey four, Pennſylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland ſix, Virginia ten, North-Carolina five, South-Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the repreſentation from any ſtate, the executive authority thereof ſhall iſſue writs of election to fill ſuch vacancies.

The Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall chooſe their Speaker and other officers; and ſhall have the ſole power of impeachment.

Sect. 3. The Senate of the United States ſhall be compoſed of two ſenators from each ſtate, choſen by the legiſlature thereof for ſix years; and each ſenator ſhall have one vote.

Immediately after they ſhall be aſſembled in conſequence of the firſt election, they ſhall be divided as equally as may be into three claſſes. The ſeats of the ſenators of the firſt claſs ſhall be vacated at the expiration of the ſecond year, of the ſecond claſs at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third claſs at the expiration of the ſixth year, ſo that one third may be choſen every ſecond year; and if vacancies happen, by reſignation or otherwiſe, during the receſs of the legiſlature of any ſtate, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legiſlature, which ſhall then fill ſuch vacancies.

No perſon ſhall be a ſenator, who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who ſhall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that ſtate for which he ſhall be choſen.

The Vice-Preſident of the United States ſhall be Preſident of the Senate, but ſhall have no vote, unleſs they be equally divided.

The Senate ſhall chooſe their other officers, and alſo a Preſident *pro tempore*, in the abſence of the Vice-Preſident, or when he ſhall exerciſe the office of Preſident of the United States.

The Senate ſhall have the ſole power to try all impeachments. When ſitting for that purpoſe, they ſhall be on oath or affirmation. When the Preſident of the United States is tried, the Chief Juſtice ſhall preſide: And no perſon ſhall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members preſent.

Judgment, in caſes of impeachment, ſhall not extend further than to removal from office, and diſqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, truſt or profit, under the United States; but the party convicted ſhall nevertheleſs be liable and ſubject to indictment, trial, judgment and puniſhment, according to law.

Sect. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for ſenators and repreſentatives ſhall be preſcribed in each ſtate by the legiſlature thereof; but the Congreſs may at any time by law make or alter ſuch regulations, except as to the places of chooſing Senators.

The Congreſs ſhall aſſemble at leaſt once in every year, and ſuch meeting ſhall be on the firſt Monday in December, unleſs they ſhall by law appoint a different day.

Sect. 5. Each houſe ſhall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each ſhall conſtitute a quorum to do buſineſs; but a ſmaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authoriſed to compel the attendance of abſent members, in ſuch manner, and under ſuch penalties, as each houſe may provide.

Each houſe may determine the rules of its proceedings, puniſh its members for diſorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each houſe ſhall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publiſh the ſame, excepting ſuch parts as may in their judgment require ſecrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either houſe on any queſtion ſhall, at the deſire of one fifth of thoſe preſent, be entered on the journal.

Neither houſe, during the ſeſſion of Congreſs, ſhall, without the conſent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houſes ſhall be ſitting.

Sect. 6. The ſenators and repreſentatives ſhall receive a compenſation for their ſervices, to be aſcertained by law, and paid out of the treaſury of the United States. They ſhall in all caſes, except treaſon, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arreſt during their attendance at the ſeſſion of their reſpective houſes, and in going to and returning from the ſame; and for any ſpeech or debate, in either houſe, they ſhall not be queſtioned in any other place.

No ſenator or repreſentative ſhall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which ſhall have been created, or the emoluments whereof ſhall have been encreaſed, during ſuch time; and no perſon holding any office under the United States ſhall be a member of either houſe during his continuance in office.

Sect. 7. All bills for raiſing revenue ſhall originate in the houſe of repreſentatives; but the ſenate may propoſe or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

Every bill which ſhall have paſſed the houſe of repreſentatives and the ſenate ſhall, before it become a law, be preſented to the preſident of the United States; if he approve, he ſhall ſign it; but if not, he ſhall return it, with his objections, to that houſe in which it ſhall have originated, who ſhall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to re-conſider it. If, after ſuch re-conſideration, two thirds of that houſe ſhall agree to paſs the bill, it ſhall be ſent, together with the objections, to the other houſe, by which it ſhall likewiſe be re-conſidered, and, if approved by two thirds of that houſe, it ſhall become a law. But in all ſuch caſes, the votes of both houſes ſhall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the perſons voting for and againſt the bill ſhall be entered on the journal of each houſe reſpectively. If any bill ſhall not be returned by the Preſident within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it ſhall have been preſented to him, the ſame ſhall be a law, in like manner as if he had ſigned it, unleſs the Congreſs, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which caſe it ſhall not be a law.

Every order, reſolution or vote, to which the concurrence of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives may be neceſſary (except on a queſtion of adjournment) ſhall be preſented to the Preſident of the United States, and, before the ſame ſhall take effect, ſhall be approved by him, or, being diſapproved by him, ſhall be re-paſſed by two thirds of the ſenate and houſe of repreſentatives, according to the rules and limitations preſcribed in the caſe of a bill.

Sect. 8. The Congreſs ſhall have power

To lay and collect taxes, duties, impoſts and exciſes, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, impoſts and exciſes, ſhall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the ſeveral ſtates, and with the Indian tribes;

To eſtabliſh an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the ſubject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the ſtandard of weights and meaſures;

To provide for the puniſhment of counterfeiting the ſecurities and current coin of the United States;

To eſtabliſh poſt-offices and poſt-roads;

To promote the progreſs of ſcience and uſeful arts, by ſecuring for limited times, to authors and inventors, the excluſive right to their reſpective writings and diſcoveries;

To conſtitute tribunals inferior to the ſupreme court;

To define and puniſh piracies and felonies committed on the high ſeas, and offences againſt the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and repriſal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raiſe and ſupport armies; but no appropriation of money to that uſe ſhall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, ſuppreſs inſurrections, and repel invaſions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and diſciplining the militia, and for governing ſuch part of them as may be employed in the ſervice of the United States; reſerving to the ſtates, reſpectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the diſcipline preſcribed by Congreſs;

To exerciſe excluſive legiſlation, in all caſes whatſoever, over ſuch diſtrict, (not exceeding ten miles ſquare) as may, by ceſſion of particular ſtates, and the acceptance of Congreſs, become the ſeat of the government of the United States; and to exerciſe like authority over all places purchaſed by the conſent of the legiſlature of the ſtate in which the ſame ſhall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arſenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings;—And

To make all laws which ſhall be neceſſary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers veſted by this conſtitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sect. 9. The migration or importation of ſuch perſons as any of the ſtates now exiſting ſhall think proper to admit, ſhall not be prohibited by the Congreſs prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight; but a tax or duty may be impoſed on ſuch importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each perſon.

The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* ſhall not be ſuſpended, unleſs when in caſes of rebellion or invaſion the public ſafety may require it.

No bill of attainder or *ex poſt facto* law ſhall be paſſed.

No capitation or other direct tax ſhall be laid, unleſs in proportion to the cenſus or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty ſhall be laid on articles exported from any ſtate. No preference ſhall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one ſtate over thoſe of another: nor ſhall veſſels bound to, or from, one ſtate, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money ſhall be drawn from the treaſury, but in conſequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular ſtatement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money ſhall be publiſhed from time to time.

No title of nobility ſhall be granted by the United States:—And no perſon holding any office of profit or truſt under them ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, accept of any preſent, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign ſtate.

Sect. 10. No ſtate ſhall enter into any treaty, alliance or confederation; grant letters of marque and repriſal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and ſilver coin a tender in payment of debts; paſs any bills of attainder, *ex poſt facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of the Congreſs, lay any impoſt or duties on imports or exports, except what may be abſolutely neceſſary for executing its inſpection laws; and the nett produce of all duties and impoſts laid by any ſtate on imports or exports ſhall be for the uſe of the treaſury of the United States; and all ſuch laws ſhall be ſubject to the reviſion and controul of the Congreſs. No ſtate ſhall, without the conſent of Congreſs, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ſhips of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another ſtate, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unleſs actually invaded, or in ſuch imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II.

Sect. 1. The executive power ſhall be veſted in a Preſident of the United States of America. He ſhall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice-Preſident, choſen for the ſame term, be elected as follows:

Each ſtate ſhall appoint, in ſuch manner as the legiſlature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Repreſentatives to which the ſtate may be entitled in the Congreſs: But no

Senator or Repreſentative, or perſon holding an office of truſt or profit under the United States, ſhall be appointed an elector.

The electors ſhall meet in their reſpective ſtates, and vote by ballot for two perſons, of whom one at leaſt ſhall not be an inhabitant of the ſame ſtate with themſelves. And they ſhall make a liſt of all the perſons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which liſt they ſhall ſign and certify, and tranſmit ſealed to the ſeat of the government of the United States, directed to the Preſident of the Senate. The Preſident of the Senate ſhall, in the preſence of the Senate and Houſe of Repreſentatives, open all the certificates, and the votes ſhall then be counted. The perſon having the greateſt number of votes ſhall be the Preſident, if ſuch number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have ſuch majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the Houſe of Repreſentatives ſhall immediately chooſe by ballot one of them for Preſident; and if no perſon have a majority, then from the five higheſt on the liſt the ſaid Houſe ſhall in like manner chooſe the Preſident. But in chooſing the Preſident, the votes ſhall be taken by ſtates, the Repreſentation from each ſtate having one vote; a quorum for this purpoſe ſhall conſiſt of a member or members from two thirds of the ſtates, and a majority of all the ſtates ſhall be neceſſary to a choice. In every caſe, after the choice of the Preſident, the perſon having the greateſt number of votes of the electors ſhall be the Vice-Preſident. But if there ſhould remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate ſhall chooſe from them by ballot the Vice-Preſident.

The Congreſs may determine the time of chooſing the electors, and the day on which they ſhall give their votes; which day ſhall be the ſame throughout the United States.

No perſon, except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be eligible to the office of Preſident; neither ſhall any perſon be eligible to that office, who ſhall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a reſident within the United States.

In caſe of the removal of the Preſident from office, or of his death, reſignation, or inability to diſcharge the powers and duties of the ſaid office, the ſame ſhall devolve on the Vice-Preſident, and the Congreſs may by law provide for the caſe of removal, death, reſignation or inability, both of the Preſident and Vice-Preſident, declaring what officer ſhall then act as Preſident, and ſuch officer ſhall act accordingly, until the diſability be removed, or a Preſident ſhall be elected.

The Preſident ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for his ſervices a compenſation, which ſhall neither be encreaſed or diminiſhed during the period for which he ſhall have been elected, and he ſhall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the execution of his office, he ſhall take the following oath or affirmation;

"I do ſolemnly ſwear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of Preſident of the United States, and will, to the beſt of my ability, preſerve, protect and defend the conſtitution of the United States."

Sect. 2. The Preſident ſhall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the ſeveral ſtates, when called into the actual ſervice of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any ſubject relating to the duties of their reſpective offices, and he ſhall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences againſt the United States, except in caſes of impeachment.

He ſhall have power, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators preſent concur; and he ſhall nominate, and, by and with the advice and conſent of the Senate, ſhall appoint Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, Judges of the ſupreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whoſe appointments are not herein otherwiſe provided for, and which ſhall be eſtabliſhed by law: But the Congreſs may by law veſt the appointment of ſuch inferior officers as they think proper in the Preſident alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The Preſident ſhall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the receſs of the Senate, by granting commiſſions, which ſhall expire at the end of their next ſeſſion.

Sect. 3. He ſhall from time to time give to the Congreſs information of the ſtate of the union, and recommend to their conſideration ſuch meaſures as he ſhall judge neceſſary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occaſions, convene both Houſes, or either of them, and in caſe of diſagreement between them, with reſpect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to ſuch time as he ſhall think proper; he ſhall receive Ambaſſadors and other public Miniſters; he ſhall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and ſhall commiſſion all the officers of the United States.

Sect. 4. The Preſident, Vice-Preſident, and all civil officers of the United States, ſhall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treaſon, bribery, or other high crimes and miſdemeanors.

ARTICLE III.

Sect. 1. The judicial power of the United States ſhall be veſted in one ſupreme court, and in ſuch inferior courts as the Congreſs may from time to time ordain and eſtabliſh. The judges, both of the ſupreme and inferior courts, ſhall hold their offices during good behaviour, and ſhall, at ſtated times, receive for their ſervices a compenſation, which ſhall not be diminiſhed during their continuance in office.

Sect. 2. The judicial power ſhall extend to all caſes in law and equity, ariſing under this conſtitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under their authority; to all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls; to all caſes of Admiralty and Maritime Juriſdiction; to controverſies to which the United States ſhall be a party; to controverſies between two or more ſtates, between a ſtate and citizens of another ſtate, between citizens of different ſtates, between citizens of the ſame ſtate claiming lands under grants of different ſtates, and between a ſtate, or the citizens thereof, and foreign ſtates, citizens or ſubjects.

In all caſes affecting Ambaſſadors, other public Miniſters and Conſuls, and thoſe in which a ſtate ſhall be party, the ſupreme court ſhall have original juriſdiction. In all the other caſes before mentioned, the ſupreme court ſhall have appellate juriſdiction, both as to law and fact, with ſuch exceptions, and under ſuch regulations, as the Congreſs ſhall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in caſes of impeachment, ſhall be by jury; and ſuch trial ſhall be held in the ſtate where the ſaid crimes ſhall have been committed; but when not committed within any ſtate, the trial ſhall be at ſuch place or places as the Congreſs may by law have directed.

Sect. 3. Treaſon againſt the United States ſhall conſiſt only, in levying war againſt them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No perſon ſhall be convicted of treaſon, unleſs on the teſtimony of two witneſſes to the ſame overt act, or on confeſſion in open court.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to declare the puniſhment of treaſon, but no attainder of treaſon ſhall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the perſon attainted.

ARTICLE IV.

Sect. 1. Full faith and credit ſhall be given in each ſtate to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other ſtate. And the Congreſs may by general laws preſcribe the manner in which ſuch acts, records and proceedings ſhall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sect. 2. The citizens of each ſtate ſhall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the ſeveral ſtates.

A perſon charged in any ſtate with treaſon, felony, or other crime, who ſhall flee from juſtice, and be found in another ſtate, ſhall, on demand of the executive authority of the ſtate from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the ſtate having juriſdiction of the crime.

No perſon held to ſervice or labour in one ſtate, under the laws thereof, eſcaping into another, ſhall, in conſequence of any law or regulation therein, be diſcharged from ſuch ſervice or labour; but ſhall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom ſuch ſervice or labour may be due.

Sect. 3. New ſtates may be admitted by the Congreſs into this union; but no new ſtate ſhall be formed or erected within the juriſdiction of any other ſtate; nor any ſtate be formed by the junction of two or more ſtates, or parts of ſtates, without the conſent of the legiſlatures of the ſtates concerned, as well as of the Congreſs.

The Congreſs ſhall have power to diſpoſe of and make all needful rules and regulations reſpecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this conſtitution ſhall be ſo conſtrued as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular ſtate.

Sect. 4. The United States ſhall guarantee to every ſtate in this union a Republican form of government, and ſhall protect each of them againſt invaſion; and on application of the legiſlature, or of the executive (when the legiſlature cannot be convened) againſt domeſtic violence.

ARTICLE V.

The Congreſs, whenever two thirds of both houſes ſhall deem it neceſſary, ſhall propoſe amendments to this conſtitution, or, on the application of the legiſlatures of two thirds of the ſeveral ſtates, ſhall call a convention for propoſing amendments, which, in either caſe, ſhall be valid to all intents and purpoſes, as part of this conſtitution, when ratified by the legiſlatures of three fourths of the ſeveral ſtates, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be propoſed by the Congreſs: Provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thouſand eight hundred and eight ſhall in any manner affect the firſt and fourth clauſes in the ninth ſection of the firſt article; and that no ſtate, without its conſent, ſhall be deprived of its equal ſuffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this conſtitution, ſhall be as valid againſt the United States under this conſtitution, as under the confederation.

This conſtitution, and the laws of the United States which ſhall be made in purſuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which ſhall be made, under the authority of the United States, ſhall be the ſupreme law of the land; and the judges in every ſtate ſhall be bound thereby, any thing in the conſtitution or laws of any ſtate to the contrary notwithſtanding.

The Senators and Repreſentatives before mentioned, and the members of the ſeveral ſtate legiſlatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the ſeveral States, ſhall be bound, by oath or affirmation, to ſupport this conſtitution; but no religious teſt ſhall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public truſt under the United States.

ARTICLE VII.

The ratification of the conventions of nine ſtates ſhall be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of this conſtitution between the ſtates ſo ratifying the ſame.

DONE in Convention, by the unanimous conſent of the States preſent, the ſeventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witneſs whereof we have hereunto ſubſcribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT,
And Deputy from VIRGINIA.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.	*John Langdon,* *Nicholas Gilman.*
MASSACHUSETTS.	*Nathaniel Gorham,* *Rufus King.*
CONNECTICUT.	*William Samuel Johnſon,* *Roger Sherman.*
NEW-YORK.	*Alexander Hamilton.*
NEW-JERSEY.	*William Livingſton,* *David Brearly,* *William Patterſon,* *Jonathan Dayton.*
PENNSYLVANIA.	*Benjamin Franklin,* *Thomas Mifflin,* *Robert Morris,* *George Clymer,* *Thomas Fitzſimons,* *Jared Ingerſoll,* *James Wilſon,* *Gouverneur Morris.*

DELAWARE.	*George Read,* *Gunning Bedford,* junior, *John Dickinſon,* *Richard Baſſett,* *Jacob Broom.*
MARYLAND.	*James M'Henry,* *Daniel of St. Tho. Jenifer,* *Daniel Carrol.*
VIRGINIA.	*John Blair,* *James Maddiſon,* junior.
NORTH-CAROLINA.	*William Blount,* *Richard Dobbs Spaight,* *Hugh Williamſon.*
SOUTH-CAROLINA.	*John Rutledge,* *Charles Coteſworth Pinckney,* *Charles Pinckney,* *Pierce Butler.*
GEORGIA.	*William Few,* *Abraham Baldwin.*

ATTEST. WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary.*

IN CONVENTION, MONDAY, *September* 17, 1787.

PRESENT.

The ſtates of *New-Hampſhire. Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut,* Mr. HAMILTON from *New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina* and *Georgia :*

RESOLVED,

THAT the preceding Conſtitution be laid before the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it ſhould afterwards be ſubmitted to a Convention of Delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its legiſlature, for their aſſent and ratification; and that each Convention aſſenting to, and ratifying the ſame, ſhould give notice thereof to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled.

Reſolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as ſoon as the Conventions of nine ſtates ſhall have ratified this Conſtitution, the United States in Congreſs aſſembled ſhould fix a day on which electors ſhould be appointed by the ſtates which ſhall have ratified the ſame, and a day on which the electors ſhould aſſemble to vote for the Preſident, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this conſtitution : That after ſuch publication the electors ſhould be appointed, and the ſenators and repreſentatives elected : That the electors ſhould meet on the day fixed for the election of the Preſident, and ſhould tranſmit their votes, certified, ſigned, ſealed and directed, as the conſtitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled: That the Senators and Repreſentatives ſhould convene at the time and place aſſigned: That the Senators ſhould appoint a Preſident of the Senate, for the ſole purpoſe of receiving, opening and counting the votes for Preſident: And, that after he ſhall be choſen, the Congreſs, together with the Preſident, ſhould, without delay, proceed to execute this Conſtitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident.

WILLIAM JACKSON, *Secretary*.

IN CONVENTION, *September* 17, 1787.

SIR,

WE have now the honor to ſubmit to the conſideration of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, that Conſtitution which has appeared to us the moſt adviſeable.

The friends of our country have long ſeen and deſired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correſpondent executive and judicial authorities, ſhould be fully and effectually veſted in the general government of the union: But the impropriety of delegating ſuch extenſive truſt to one body of men is evident—Hence reſults the neceſſity of a different organization.

It is obviouſly impracticable in the fœderal government of theſe ſtates, to ſecure all rights of independent ſovereignty to each, and yet provide for the intereſt and ſafety of all.—Individuals entering into ſociety muſt give up a ſhare of liberty, to preſerve the reſt. The magnitude of the ſacrifice muſt depend as well on ſituation and circumſtance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with preciſion the line between thoſe rights which muſt be ſurrendered, and thoſe which may be reſerved; and on the preſent occaſion this difficulty was encreaſed by a difference among the ſeveral ſtates, as to their ſituation, extent, habits, and particular intereſts.

In all our deliberations on this ſubject we kept ſteadily in our view, that which appears to us the greateſt intereſt of every true *American*, the conſolidation of our union, in which is involved our proſperity, felicity, ſafety, perhaps our national exiſtence. This important conſideration, ſeriouſly and deeply impreſſed on our minds, led each ſtate in the Convention to be leſs rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwiſe expected; and thus the Conſtitution, which we now preſent, is the reſult of a ſpirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and conceſſion, which the peculiarity of our political ſituation rendered indiſpenſable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every ſtate is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtleſs conſider, that had her intereſts been alone conſulted, the conſequences might have been particularly diſagreeable or injurious to others; that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reaſonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the laſting welfare of that country ſo dear to us all, and ſecure her freedom and happineſs, is our moſt ardent wiſh. With great reſpect, we have the honor to be, *S I R,*

Your Excellency's moſt obedient and humble Servants.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *Preſident.*

By unanimous Order of the Convention.

His Excellency the Preſident of Congreſs.

THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

FRIDAY, *September 28th,* 1787.

PRESENT——*New-Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Delaware, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina* and *Georgia,* and from *Maryland,* Mr. *Roſs.*

CONGRESS having received the Report of the Convention lately aſſembled in *Philadelphia,*

Reſolved unanimouſly, That the ſaid report, with the reſolutions and letter accompanying the ſame, be tranſmitted to the ſeveral legiſlatures, in order to be ſubmitted to a convention of delegates, choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, in conformity to the reſolves of the convention, made and provided in that caſe.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*additional Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for the regulation of the " militia of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the goſpel among the Hea-* "*then, formed by members of the Epiſcopal Church of the* United Brethren, "*or* Unitas Fratrum," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to* "*an act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut " Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for* "*other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying *Standing Stone* creek may be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Jonas Philips* was read, praying he may be authoriſed to ſell goods by public auction, or appointed city auctioneer, for which he offers an annual ſum of one thouſand dollars, excluſive of the ſtate duties; and ſtating, that he is ready to lay before a committee of this Houſe a ſcheme of a lottery, which he, upon calculation, finds will produce fifty-four thouſand dollars within one year.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" and in debating the ſame,

It was moved by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell*,

To inſert the following clauſe, immediately after the ſeventh ſection, *viz.*

"And whereas doubts have ariſen with reſpect to the true intent and meaning of the term "*acquired*," in the act to which this is a ſupplement: Be it therefore enacted and declared by the authority aforeſaid, That none but ſuch perſon or perſons as have made a real ſettlement at or before the decree of *Trenton*, or the legal repreſentatives of ſuch perſon or perſons, ſhall be eſteemed or judged to have acquired any title under the aforeſaid act; and that an actual ſettlement or occupancy, made previous to the decree at *Trenton*, ſhall enable ſuch perſon or perſons ſo claiming to enjoy a tract of land, not exceeding three hundred acres, and the allowance of *ſix per centum* for roads."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid additional clauſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Peters*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
3 *John Chapman*,
4 *Valentine Upp*,
5 *Robert Ralſton*,
6 *James Moore*,
7 *Alexander Lowrey*,
8 *Adam Hubley*,
9 *James Clemſon*,
10 *Jacob Erb*,
11 *John Hopkins*,
12 *William Mitchell*,
13 *Joſeph Lilley*,
14 *Joſeph Reed*,
15 *Thomas Clingan*,
16 *David Mitchell*,
17 *Thomas Beale*,
18 *Thomas Kennedy*,
19 *John Oliver*,
20 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
21 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
22 *David Davis*,
23 *Joſeph Sands*,

YEAS.

24 *Philip Kreemer*,
25 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
26 *Peter Burkhalter*,
27 *John Piper*,
28 *John White*,
29 *William Findley*,
30 *James Barr*,
31 *John Irvine*,
32 *John M'Dowell*,
33 *James Alliſon*,
34 *Alexander Wright*,
35 *John Flenniken*,
36 *Theophilus Philips*,
37 *John Gilchreeſt*,
38 *James M'Lene*,
39 *James M'Calmont*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *Robert Lollar*,
42 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
43 *Peter Richards*,
44 *Jacob Miley*,
45 *Robert Clark*,
46 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Samuel Foulke,*

NAYS.

9 *Richard Thomas,*
10 *Samuel Evans,*
11 *Richard Willing,*
12 *Townſend Whelen,*
13 *Joſeph Work,*
14 *David M'Clellan,*
15 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *November* 23, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petition of *Mary Bioren,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

Mr. *Fitzſimons* then preſented to the chair a petition from divers owners of land within the county of *Luzerne,* as well as a letter from *Timothy Pickering,* Eſquire, one of the commiſſioners appointed under the aforeſaid act, which were read. Whereupon,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, in order to direct the ſaid commiſſioners to appear at the bar of this Houſe, for the purpoſe of ſtating the ſituation of affairs in that county.

And the queſtion being taken thereon,

It was carried in the affirmative.

The ſaid commiſſioners then appearing at the bar, ſeverally declared their opinions reſpecting the ſituation of affairs in the county of *Luzerne,* and anſwered to ſuch queſtions as were aſked of them. Whereupon

Ordered, That they have leave to withdraw.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, *November* 24, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Cheſter* were read, praying that certificates for debts due from this ſtate may be received in diſcharge of mortgages given for money received from the loan-office.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A letter from his Excellency the Governor of the ſtate of *Virginia* was read, incloſing the following reſolutions of the legiſlature of that ſtate, *viz.*

IN THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

THURSDAY, the 25th of *October*, 1787.

Reſolved unanimouſly,

THAT the proceedings of the Fœderal Convention, tranſmitted to the General Aſſembly through the medium of Congreſs, be ſubmitted to a Convention of the people, for their full and free inveſtigation, diſcuſſion and deciſion.

Reſolved, That every citizen, being a freeholder in this commonwealth, be eligible to a ſeat in the Convention, and that the people therefore ought not to be reſtrained in their choice of Delegates by any other of thoſe legal or conſtitutional reſtrictions, which confine them in their choice of members to the Legiſlature.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to each county to elect two Delegates, and to each city, town or corporation, entitled, or which may be entitled by law, to repreſentation in the Legiſlature, to elect one Delegate to the ſaid Convention.

Reſolved, That the qualifications of the electors be the ſame with thoſe now eſtabliſhed by law for the choice of repreſentatives to the General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That the elections for Delegates as aforeſaid be held at the ſeveral places appointed by law for holding the election for Delegates to the General Aſſembly, and that the ſame be conducted by the officers who conduct the elections for Delegates, and conformably to the rules and regulations thereof.

Reſolved, That the election for Delegates ſhall be held in the month of *March* next, on the firſt day of the court to be held for each county, city or corporation, reſpectively, and that the perſons ſo choſen ſhall aſſemble at the State-Houſe in the city of *Richmond,* on the firſt *Monday* in *June* next.

Reſolved, That two thouſand copies of theſe reſolutions be forthwith printed, and diſperſed by the members of the General Aſſembly among their conſtituents, and that the Executive tranſmit a copy of them to Congreſs, and to the Legiſlatures and Executives of the reſpective ſtates.

Teſte, *JOHN BECKLEY,* C. H. D.

1787, *October* 31ſt, Agreed to by the Senate,

H. BROOKE, C. S.

A memorial from Colonel *Francis Mentges* was read, ſtating, that in conſequence of his appointment as Inſpector-General of the militia of this commonwealth by the Supreme Executive Council, he incurred conſiderable expence, for which he hath not received any compenſation, and requeſting ſuch recompence may be granted, as will enable him farther to purſue the duties of his appointment.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled “*An Act to increaſe the duties of exciſe upon wine, and upon rum, brandy and other ſpirits,*” which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “*A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;” and in debating the ninth ſection of the ſaid bill,

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the further conſideration thereof, in order to reconſider the additional clauſe propoſed yeſterday by Mr. *Findley,* and adopted by the Houſe.

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Fitzſimons,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Richard Peters,*
10 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
11 *John Chapman,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Valentine Upp,*
14 *Robert Ralſton,*

YEAS.

15 *Richard Thomas,*
16 *Samuel Evans,*
17 *Richard Willing,*
18 *Townſend Whelen,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *David M‘Clellan,*
22 *Thomas Clingan,*
23 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
24 *Peter Burkhalter,*
25 *Jacob Reiff,*
26 *Robert Lollar,*
27 *Peter Richards,*
28 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *James Moore,*
2 *Alexander Lowrey,*
3 *James Clemſon,*
4 *Jacob Erb,*
5 *John Hopkins,*
5 *William Mitchell,*
7 *Joſeph Lilley,*
8 *Joſeph Reed,*
9 *David Mitchell,*
10 *Thomas Beale,*
11 *John Oliver,*
12 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
13 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
14 *David Davis,*
15 *Joſeph Sands,*
16 *Philip Kreemer,*
17 *John Piper,*

NAYS.

18 *John White,*
19 *William Findley,*
20 *James Barr,*
21 *John Irvine,*
22 *John M‘Dowell,*
23 *James Alliſon,*
24 *Alexander Wright,*
25 *John Flenniken,*
26 *Theophilus Philips,*
27 *John Gilchreeſt,*
28 *James M‘Lene,*
29 *James M‘Calmont,*
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
31 *Jacob Miley,*
32 *Robert Clark,*
33 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *McDowell*,

To poſtpone the ſaid ninth ſection, in order to introduce an additional clauſe, to precede the ſame in the ſaid bill.

Which was carried in the affirmative.

And the additional clauſe being read in the words following, *viz.*

" And whereas it hath become expedient to quiet in their poſſeſſions, not
" only thoſe who were actual ſettlers upon lands in the county of *Luzerne*
" aforeſaid before the time of the decree of the court of *Trenton*, but that ſuch
" alſo as have at any time ſince ſeated themſelves upon lands and improved
" the ſame, and are now reſident thereupon, ſhould, upon their taking the
" oath of allegiance and renunciation herein before preſcribed, and demean-
" ing themſelves as good citizens, have the lands upon which they have ſo
" improved and become reſident ſecured to them in like manner: Therefore be
" it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all and every perſon ac-
" tually reſident within the ſaid county of *Luzerne* at the time of paſſing this
" act, who is ſeated upon lands improved and held by him, and upon which
" he hath erected a dwelling-houſe, ſhall have, and he is hereby declared to
" have, the ſame confirmed to him, his heirs and aſſigns for ever, ſubject to the
" like limitation for making their reſpective claims as is herein after provided.
" And the commiſſioners who are or may be appointed to receive claims
" ſhall in like manner proceed to receive, enquire into, examine witneſſes on
" oath, and determine upon every ſuch claim, cauſe the ſame to be ſurveyed,
" at the expence of the party, within ſome one of the eighteen towns, and in
" ſuch manner as the ſaid half ſhares have been already ſurveyed and allotted;
" provided that it do not exceed acres to each lot or half
" ſhare. And the return of the ſame ſhall be made to the Supreme Execu-
" tive Council, who ſhall grant patents therefor, in like manner as is directed
" by the act to which this is a ſupplement: Provided always, That no perſon
" ſo occupying and claiming ſhall receive any benefit from this act, unleſs he
" take and ſubſcribe the oaths herein before directed within the time preſcribed.

It was, on motion of Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *McLene* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The ninth ſection being then again under debate,

A motion was made by Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Findley*,

To ſtrike out the remainder of the ſaid ſection, after the words, " *quality*
" *and value*," and in lieu thereof to inſert the words,

" And it is hereby declared and enacted, That this Houſe ſhall and do
" pledge the faith of the ſtate to provide funds, ſo ſoon as the ſaid valuation
" and appraiſement ſhall be made and communicated to this Houſe, for the
" payment or ſatisfaction of the ſaid claimants, in ſuch mode as ſhall be con-
" ſiſtent with the juſtice due to the citizens of the ſtate, whoſe property is,
" may or ſhall be affected by this act, or by the act to which this is a ſup-
" plement."

And after ſome debate thereon,

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *McLene*,

Ordered, That the ſaid clauſe and amendment be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, November 26, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *William Moore*, Eſquire, read in the late Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 27th laſt, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Thomas Johnſton*, late a ſoldier in the army of the United States, was read, ſetting forth, that he hath loſt the certificate given him teſtifying his ſervices during the war, whereby he is precluded from receiving his pay and other dues, and praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krebl*, and others.

A petition from *Moſes Read* was read, ſetting forth, that *John Piper*, Eſq; depoſited with him a ſum of continental money, for the purpoſe of engaging cattle for the uſe of the army of the United States; that he procured twenty-five head of cattle, which, with his own expences, amounted to about *one hundred pounds* more than he received; that he has repeatedly applied to the Comptroller-General and others for a ſettlement of his accounts, without effect; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*A* " *Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due collection and " payment of taxes within this commonwealth," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to encreaſe the duties of exciſe upon wine, and* " *upon rum, brandy and other ſpirits*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The bill, entituled " *An additional Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act " for the regulation of the militia of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce " the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to incorparate the ſociety for propagating the* " *goſpel among the heathen, formed by members of the Epiſcopal church of the* " United Brethren, *or* Unitas Fratrum," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, *November* 27, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Robert Taylor*, read in a former Houſe of Aſſembly *March* 28th, 1785, was preſented to the chair, read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers citizens of *Pennſylvania* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, authoriſing the officers of the land-office to transfer warrants for lands from one county to another, or to return the monies paid on ſuch warrants where no land is found, and that the Receiver-General may be empowered to transfer the monies overpaid on the account of one tract of land, to the credit of another which may happen to be deficient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *November* 21ſt, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

A motion was made by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

To reſume the further conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain per-" ſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the " county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," in order to re-conſider the additional clauſe propoſed by Mr. *Findley*, and adopted by the Houſe on *Thurſday* laſt.

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the negative.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, *November* 28, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Patrick Sullivan*, late a ſoldier in the ſecond regiment of the line of this ſtate, in the ſervice of the United States, was read, praying he may be entitled to his proportion of the donation lands allotted to the officers and ſoldiers of the ſaid line.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Thomas Johnſton*, *November* 26th, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 19th, on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *November* 15th, on the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Wayne* and *Derry* townſhips, in the county of *Cumberland*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe having reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An* " *Additional Supplement to the acts for the regulation of the militia of the com-* " *monwealth of* Pennſylvania," It was moved by Mr. *Lewis*, ſeconded by Mr. *Will*,

To inſert the following paragraphs, *viz.*

“ And whereas ſeveral of the freemen of the city of *Philadelphia*, with a view to render themſelves as uſeful to their country in the character of militia as poſſible, have voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves into a troop of light dragoons, and are deſirous of being authoriſed and eſtabliſhed as ſuch by law: Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That in addition to the troop of militia light dragoons for the ſaid city, already formed under the laws of this commonwealth, there ſhall be one other troop of light dragoons for the ſaid city, formed by volunteer aſſociation of the freemen of the ſaid city (including thoſe perſons who have already voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves as aforeſaid) to conſiſt of one captain, one firſt lieutenant, one ſecond lieutenant, one cornet, four ſergeants, four corporals, one farrier, one trumpeter, and ſixty-eight privates, which ſaid additional troop ſhall be under the like rules and regulations with the other militia troops of light dragoons within this commonwealth; and the officers of the ſaid corps ſhall be accordingly, and in like manner, commiſſioned by the Supreme Executive Council.”

“ And whereas ſome of the militia of this ſtate have voluntarily formed themſelves into companies of light-armed-infantry, and have attached themſelves to the battalions from which they have been reſpectively formed: Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That whenever a ſufficient number of volunteers from any battalion ſhall offer to form a company of light infantry, and will clothe themſelves in ſuitable uniform, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch company to elect by ballot their officers, viz. one captain, one firſt lieutenant, and one ſecond lieutenant; and that the non-commiſſioned officers be appointed as is by law directed for other companies of militia; and that ſuch companies reſpectively be attached to the battalions from which they ſhall be formed; and be ſubject to the rules and regulations formed for the government of the militia; provided, that the volunteers already aſſociated be admitted as a part of ſuch companies.”

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Beale*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Will*,
6 *William Robinſon*, jun.
7 *John Salter*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,

YEAS.

15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,
22 *James Clemſon*,
23 *Jacob Erb*,
24 *John Hopkins*,
25 *David M‘Clellan*,
26 *Joſeph Lilley*,
27 *Thomas Clingan*,
28 *David Mitchell*,

YEAS.

29 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
30 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
31 *Philip Kreemer*,
32 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
33 *Peter Burkhalter*,
34 *John Piper*,
35 *John White*,
36 *John Irvine*,
37 *Alexander Wright*,
38 *John Gilchreeſt*,
39 *James M'Calmont*,
40 *Jacob Reiff*,
41 *Robert Lollar*,
42 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
43 *Robert Clark*,
44 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *William Mitchell*,
3 *Joſeph Reed*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *John Oliver*,
6 *David Davis*,
7 *Joſeph Sands*,
8 *James Barr*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *James Alliſon*,
11 *Theophilus Philips*,
12 *James M'Lene*,
13 *Jacob Miley*,
14 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the ſaid bill, together with the ſeveral additional clauſes, having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the ſame be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The committee to whom were referred, *November* 24th, the additional clauſe propoſed by Mr. *Findley*, and the ninth ſection of the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called *Connecticut Claimants*, the lands by them claimed within the county of *Luzerne*, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,” together with the amendment propoſed by Mr. *Peters*, made report. Whereupon

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the ſaid bill, and having fully debated the aforeſaid clauſe of Mr. *Findley*'s, *viz.*

“ And whereas it hath become expedient to quiet in their poſſeſſions, not only thoſe who were actual ſettlers upon lands in the county of *Luzerne* aforeſaid before the time of the decree of the court of *Trenton*, but that ſuch alſo as have at any time ſince ſeated themſelves upon lands and improved the ſame, and are now reſident thereupon, ſhould, upon their taking the oath of allegiance and renunciation herein before preſcribed, and demeaning themſelves as good citizens, have the lands upon which they have ſo improved and become reſident ſecured to them in like manner: Therefore be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That all and every perſon actually reſident within the ſaid county of *Luzerne* at the time of paſſing this act, who is ſeated upon lands improved and held by him, and upon which he hath erected a dwelling-houſe, ſhall have, and he is hereby declared to have, the ſame confirmed to him, his heirs and aſſigns for ever, ſubject to the like limitation for making their reſpective claims as is herein after provided. And the commiſſioners who are or may be appointed to receive claims ſhall in like manner proceed to receive, enquire into, examine witneſſes on oath, and determine upon every ſuch claim, cauſe the ſame to be ſurveyed,

“ at the expence of the party, within ſome one of the eighteen towns, and in ſuch manner as the ſaid half ſhares have been already ſurveyed and allotted; provided that it do not exceed   acres to each lot or half ſhare. And the return of the ſame ſhall be made to the Supreme Executive Council, who ſhall grant patents therefor, in like manner as is directed by the act to which this is a ſupplement: Provided always, That no perſon ſo occupying and claiming ſhall receive any benefit from this act, unleſs he take and ſubſcribe the oaths herein before directed within the time preſcribed.”

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Logan,*
2 *Robert Ralſton,*
3 *James Moore,*
4 *William Mitchell,*
5 *Joſeph Reed,*
6 *John Piper,*
7 *William Findley,*
8 *James Barr,*
9 *John M‘Dowell,*

YEAS.

10 *James Alliſon,*
11 *Alexander Wright,*
12 *John Flenniken,*
13 *Theophilus Philips,*
14 *John Gilchreeſt,*
15 *James M‘Lene,*
16 *James M‘Calmont,*
17 *Jacob Miley,*
18 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Samuel Foulke,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*

NAYS.

22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *David M‘Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Thomas Clingan,*
26 *David Mitchell,*
27 *Thomas Beale,*
28 *John Oliver,*
29 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
30 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
31 *David Davis,*
32 *Joſeph Sands,*
33 *Philip Kreemer,*
34 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
35 *Peter Burkhalter,*
36 *John White,*
37 *John Irvine,*
38 *Jacob Reiff,*
39 *Robert Lollar,*
40 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
41 *Robert Clark,*
42 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the negative.

It was then, on motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

Ordered, That the further conſideration of the ſaid bill be poſtponed.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to veſt* “ *in* Richard Wells *and* John Clifford, *the ſhare or portion of the ſhip* Anna, “ *lately forfeited to the ſtate.*”

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe debate the ſame by paragraphs?*”— It was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to veſt in the Supreme Executive Council of* “ *this ſtate a power to reveſt or remit, either in the whole or in part, any for-* “ *feiture or forfeitures accrued to the ſtate under the laws for the regulation of* “ *trade,*” was read the ſecond time. Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Lewis,*

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, November 29, 1787. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,* in the words following, *viz.*

“ *Reſolved,* That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby “ authoriſed and requeſted to iſſue a grant or grants in favour of ſuch *Penn-* “ *ſylvania Claimants,* who have or may be diveſted of their lands in the county “ of *Luzerne,* by the operation of an act, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act,* “ entituled “ An act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called “ *Connecticut Claimants,* the lands by them claimed within the county of *Lu-* “ *zerne,* and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,” which grant or grants “ ſhall give ſuch claimant or claimants a right to take up and ſettle upon a “ quantity of land, in any part of the reſidue of the donation lands not al- “ ready appropriated, provided the quantity of lands ſo granted do not ex- “ ceed the quantity of land of which ſuch perſon or perſons have been or may “ be diveſted as aforeſaid; which land, ſo granted and accepted of, ſhall be “ conſidered as a compenſation to ſuch perſon or perſons, either in whole or “ in part, as ſhall hereafter be determined.”

And on the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene,* and Mr. *Peters,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Richard Peters,*
2 *James Moore,*
3 *Townſend Whelen,*
4 *William Mitchell,*
5 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
6 *David Davis,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *John White,*
10 *William Findley,*

YEAS.

11 *James Barr,*
12 *John Irwin,*
13 *John M'Dowell,*
14 *James Alliſon,*
15 *Alexander Wright,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *James M'Lene,*
18 *James M'Calmont,*
19 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
20 *John Paul Schott.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Will,*
6 *William Robinſon,* jun.
7 *John Salter,*
8 *George Logan,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *Robert Ralſton,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*

NAYS.

20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *David M'Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *David Mitchell,*
27 *Thomas Beale,*
28 *John Oliver,*
29 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
30 *Joſeph Sands,*
31 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
32 *Peter Burkhalter,*
33 *John Flenniken,*
34 *John Gilchreeſt,*
35 *Robert Lollar,*
36 *Jacob Reiff,*
37 *Robert Clark,*
38 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Calmont,* in the words following, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That it is the opinion of this Houſe, that all proceedings of " the commiſſioners appointed to carry into effect the act, entituled " *An Act* " *for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, " *the lands by them claimed in the county of* Luzerne, *and for other purpoſes* " *therein mentioned,*" ſhall ceaſe and determine, until this Houſe ſhall take " further order therein."

The previous queſtion was then called by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon,* Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *Evans, viz.*

" *Shall the main queſtion be now put?*"

And carried in the negative.

Mr. *Lollar,* appointed to collect the fines from abſent members, preſented to the chair a receipt from the Treaſurer of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for *ſix pounds twelve ſhillings* and *ſix-pence,* being the amount of fines by him collected this preſent ſeſſion.

The committee appointed *November* 21ſt, on the petitions of a number of the inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland, Waſhington* and *Fayette,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the petition of *Thomas Johnſton,* was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of claims, to whom was referred the petition of *Thomas Johnſton,* a negroe, formerly a ſoldier in the *American* army, have examined his claim, and are clearly of opinion that the Houſe of Aſſembly cannot grant him the relief he prays for:

Therefore, all your committee can do is, to recommend him as a proper object of charity, on account of his poverty and old age.

The report of the committee, read *November* 23d, on the petition of *Mary Bioren*, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Mary Bioren* have leave to withdraw her petition.

The report of the committee, read yeſterday, on the memorial of *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, was read the ſecond time. Whereupon

Reſolved, That *John Penn*, junior, and *John Penn*, Eſquires, have leave to bring in a bill, to be paſſed into a law, for the purpoſe of confirming to them their tenths or manors, and private eſtates, and for explaining an act, entituled "*An Act for veſting the eſtates of the late Proprietaries of* Pennſylvania *in this* "*commonwealth*," ſo far as concerns their ſaid tenths or manors, and private eſtates.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report,——

That there is due to *Hall* and *Sellers*, per account, for printing the minutes of the eleventh General Aſſembly, ſixty-two ſheets and an half, and other printing per order of the Legiſlature, *two hundred and twenty-nine pounds and ten-pence.*

To *Nicholas Weaver*, for ſundries, during his being in office as Serjeant at Arms, *three pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence.*

To *James Pearſon*, for ſundry repairs made on the State-Houſe, per order of the General Aſſembly, *thirty-eight pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence.*

To *William Spotſwood*, for the *Pennſylvania Herald*, from *September* 1786, to *September* 1787, *ten pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *Michael Billmeyer*, for printing the *German* minutes of the laſt ſeſſion of the General Aſſembly, and printing the Fœderal Conſtitution, *fifty-four pounds.*

To *Thomas Bradford*, for printing the laws, and publiſhing the bills for conſideration, *one hundred and eighty-five pounds thirteen ſhillings.*

To *Francis Bailey*, for ſix copies of the *Freeman*'s *Journal* from *January* 1787, until the end of the year, *ſix pounds.*

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw orders on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, for *one hundred and fifty pounds*, on account.

In favor of *Nicholas Weaver*, for *three pounds five ſhillings and eight-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *James Pearſon*, for *thirty-eight pounds twelve ſhillings and eight-pence*, in full of his account.

In favor of *William Spotſwood*, for *ten pounds ten ſhillings*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, for *fifty pounds*, on account.

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, for *one hundred and eighty-five pounds thirteen ſhillings*, in full.

In favor of *Francis Bailey*, for *ſix pounds*, in full of his account.

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, for *fifty-nine pounds*, for his ſervices as Clerk of this Houſe, including twenty days for compleating the buſineſs.

In favor of *Jacob Shallus*, for *fifty-nine pounds*, for his ſervices as Aſſiſtant-Clerk to this Houſe, including twenty days allowance for compleating the buſineſs.

In favor of *James Martin*, for *twenty-four pounds ten ſhillings*, including ten days allowance, for his ſervice as Serjeant-at-Arms to the General Aſſembly.

In favor of *Joſeph Fry*, for *twenty-four pounds ten ſhillings*, including ten days allowance, for his ſervice as Door-keeper to this Houſe.

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, for ſix volumes of the debates, at *eleven ſhillings and eight-pence, three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for the ſum of *ſeventy-five pounds*, to enable him to pay the contingent expences of this Houſe, for which he is to account with the Comptroller-General.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws, reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *to provide for the wages of Members of the State Convention, and to defray the expences of holding the ſame.*

II. *An* ACT *for furniſhing the quota of troops required by Congreſs for the protection of the weſtern frontiers, and other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

III. *An* ACT *to alter and amend an act, entituled* " An Act for erecting " and opening a loan-office, for the ſum of *fifty thouſand pounds.*"

Which Laws were as uſual depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

The Houſe then adjourned until the Third *Tueſday* in *February* next.

PETER Z. LLOYD, *Clerk*
of the General Aſſembly.

LAWS

ENACTED IN THE SECOND SITTING
OF THE TWELFTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,

Which commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday* the *nineteenth* Day of *February*, in the Year of our Lord, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven.

CHAP. CXXXIII.

1788.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* ACT *entitled,* " *An* ACT *to alter and amend an* ACT, " *entitled'An* ACT *to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of* Aſſembly *heretofore made for regulating the elections of* Juſtices *of* Peace *throughout this* State *and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections, and to authorize the* Juſtices *of the* Peace *of the city of* Philadelphia *to hold the* Courts *of* Record *of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the due election and return of* Juſtice *of* Peace *elect.*"

SECT. I. WHEREAS it appears to this Houſe, that for the purpoſes of holding Orphans Courts, and the accelerating other public buſineſs falling under the juriſdiction of the county courts, it will be uſeful and convenient to the citizens of this State, that a number of Juſtices neceſſary to compoſe a court ſhould reſide ſo near together, that a court may be eaſily aſſembled in caſes wherein their immediate intervention is neceſſary. PREAMBLE.

SECT. II. *Be it enacted by the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and it is hereby enacted by*

Every diſtrict containing a county-town, entitled to three juſtices, &c.

authority of the ſame, That every diſtrict in which a county town is ſituate within this State, now erected or hereafter to be erected, ſhall be entitled to three Juſtices of the Peace of the proper county, upon the election of the freeholders of the reſpective diſtricts in which ſuch towns are ſituate as ſoon as the preſident or vice-preſident in council ſhall think proper to grant the ſame, and the freeholders of the ſeveral diſtricts aforeſaid, ſhall as in other caſes elect and return a double number of Juſtices of the Peace elect accordingly, any law heretofore made enacted to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Wedneſday *the twenty-ſeventh*
Day of February, *in the Year of*
our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

C H A P. CXXXIV.

An ACT *authoriſing the* Supreme Executive Council *to draw an order on the* Treaſurer *of this* State, *for the ſum of ſeventy nine pounds ten ſhillings in favour of* Alexander M'Dowell.

Preamble

Sect. I. WHEREAS by a petition preſented to this Houſe by Alexander M'Dowell, it is therein ſet forth that he was appointed a Surveyor of one of the diſtricts in the late purchaſe, that after he had carried out his diviſion line, and before he had executed one warrant, he received orders from the Supreme Executive Council to deſiſt; by means of which he has been ſubjected to conſiderable expences, and as the running of the aforeſaid line is rendered uſeleſs, he has prayed for relief in the premiſes, and it is juſt and reaſonable that the expences aforeſaid be paid: Therefore,

Sect. II. *Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed thorized to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this State, for the ſum of ſeventy-nine pounds ten ſhillings, being the balance due to him.

Council to draw for £.75, in favor of Alexander M'Dowell.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia,
on Wedneſday *the twenty-ſeventh*
day of February, *in the year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

* * *

C H A P. CXXXV.

An ACT *for veſting the Public* Store-Houſe *and two Lots of Ground in the Borough and County of* Lancaſter, *in the Truſtees of* Franklin College, *for the uſe of the ſaid Inſtitution.*

Sect. I. WHEREAS from a full conviction of the utility of eſtabliſhing ſeminaries of learning in this Commonwealth, an act of Aſſembly was paſſed the tenth day of March one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſeven to incorporate a College and charity School in the borough and county of Lancaſter, under the title of Franklin College.

Preamble.

And whereas it hath ſince been repreſented to this houſe by the petition of the Truſtees of the ſaid College, that their funds, notwithſtanding the former bounty of the legiſlature, are inadequate to the good purpoſes intended; wherefore they have prayed this houſe to convey to the ſaid College, two certain lots or pieces of ground on Queen-ſtreet, in the ſaid borough with the public Store-houſe thereon being, *and whereas* it appears reaſonable and proper that the ſaid petition ſhould be granted.

Sect. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the ſaid two lots of ground as they are ſituated on the weſt ſide of Queen-ſtreet in the ſaid borough, with their appurtenances, and all the eſtate, right, title, intereſt, property, claim and demand of the State of Pennſylvania, in and to the ſame, ſhall be and they are hereby granted and veſted

Two Lots of ground granted to Franklin College.

veſted in the Truſtees of Franklin College in the borough and county of Lancaſter, and their ſucceſſors for ever, to and for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Wedneſday *the twenty ſeventh*
day of February, *in the year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXXXVI.

An ACT *to incorporate the ſociety for propagating the* Goſpel *among the* Heathen, *formed by members of the* Epiſcopal Church *of the* United Brethren *or* Unitas Fratrum.

Preamble. Sect. I. WHEREAS it has been repreſented to this Houſe by the Reverend John Ettwein, one of the Biſhops of the Church called Unitas Fratrum or the United Brethren, and the Reverend John Meder, Paſtor in ordinary of the ſaid Church in the city of Philadelphia, That ſince the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and forty, when the ſaid Church began to make ſettlements in America, the principal aim of their members coming over from Europe, was to carry the glorious truths of the Goſpel to the Indians here, that they have without intermiſſion continued their labours among the Indians, and notwithſtanding the increaſe of expences and other difficulties, are reſolved to purſue and ſupport this commendable work, and for this purpoſe have formed a ſociety for propagating the Goſpel among the Heathen, and entered into certain rules of aſſociation (a copy whereof they have ſubjoined to their petition) and prayed to incorporate the ſaid ſociety.

And whereas the propagation of the Goſpel among the Indians of America, is of great importance to the citizens of this and other the United States, and may by the bleſſing of God, be conducive to the peace and ſecurity of the inhabitants and ſettlers of our frontiers, and by living examples of the miſſionaries and the converts, the ſavages may be induced to turn their minds to the chriſtian religion, induſtry and ſocial life with the citizens of the United States.

And whereas this Houſe is diſpoſed to exercise the powers veſted in the Legiſlature of the Commonwealth, for the encouragement of all pious and charitable purpoſes.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the Reverend John Ettwein, Biſhop, Frederick William Von Marſhall, gentleman, the Reverend Andrew Hubner and Paul Munſter, Hans Chriſtian Von Schweinitz, gentleman, the Reverend David Zeiſberger, junior, John Auguſt Klingſohr, Jeremy Dencke, Charles Gotthold Reichel, Daniel Koehler, Chriſtian Benzien and Godfrey Praezel, the preſent directors, the Reverend Bernhard Adam Grube, Frederick Peter, ſenr. and Jacob Van Vleck, the preſent aſſiſtant directors of the ſaid ſociety, the Reverend John Herbſt, John Meder, Francis Boehler, James Birkby, Lewis Boehler and Abraham Reinecke, and others, the miniſters in the different brethrens congregations and their ſucceſſors and all other members of ſaid ſociety, who have and hereafter ſhall ſubſcribe the rules of the ſaid ſociety, be, and they are hereby made, declared and conſtituted to be a corporation and body politic and corporate, in law and in fact, to have continuance for ever by the name, ſtile and title of, “ The ſociety of the United Brethren for propagating the goſpel among the heathen.”

Corporation conſtituted & ſtile.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors by the name, ſtile and title aforeſaid, ſhall for ever hereafter, be perſons able and capable in law, to purchaſe, have, receive, take, hold and enjoy in fee ſimple or of leſs eſtate or eſtates, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchiſes and other hereditaments, by the gift, grant, bargain, ſale, alienation, enfeoffment, releaſe, confirmation or deviſe of any perſon or perſons, bodies politic and corporate, capable and able to make the ſame, and further that the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors may take and receive any ſum or ſums of money, any portion of goods and chattles that have been or hereafter ſhall be given or bequeathed to them or the ſaid ſociety, by any perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate, able and capable to make a bequeſt or gift thereof. Provided that no miſnomer of the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors, ſhall defeat or annul any gift, grant, deviſe or bequeſt to the ſaid corporation; if the intent of the donor ſhall ſufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, teſtament or other writing, whereby any eſtate or intereſt was intended to paſs to the ſaid corporation, nor ſhall any nonuſer of the rights, liberties, privileges and authorities, or any of them, hereby granted to the ſaid corporation, create or cauſe a forfeiture thereof.

Corporation may purchaſe land, &c.

IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all donations and contributions, rents, intereſts and profits ariſing from the real and perſonal eſtate of the aforeſaid corporation ſhall by the ſaid directors and their ſucceſſors from time to time, be applied and laid out for the maintenance and ſupport of their miſſionaries and their aſſiſtants, for building

Application of profits directed.

and ſupporting places of public worſhip and Schools, providing books for the better educating, inſtructing and civilizing the children of the converts, and others among the nations who ſhall be deſirous to commit their youths to the care and inſtruction of the ſaid miſſionaries, and for ſuch other pious and charitable uſes as are conformable to the true deſign and intent of the ſaid ſociety.

Conſent of majority requiſite to alien.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors, ſhall not by deed or otherwiſe, grant, alien, convey or otherwiſe diſpoſe of any part or parcel of the real eſtate in the ſaid corporation veſted or to be veſted, or charge or incumber the ſame to any perſon or perſons whatſoever, except by and with the conſent of a majority of the regular contributing members of the ſaid ſociety, convened for that purpoſe.

Directors, &c. to make bye-laws, &c.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid directors and aſſiſtant directors and their ſucceſſors or a majority of them, ſhall and may from time to time, convene the members of the ſaid ſociety to make rules, bye-laws and ordinances, and to tranſact every thing requiſite for the good government and ſupport of the affairs of the ſaid ſociety, agreeable to their ſtated rules. *Provided always* that the ſaid rules, bye laws and ordinances or any of them be not repugnant to the laws and ſtatutes in force within this Commonwealth.

Proviſo.

To have a common ſeal, &c.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid ſociety and their ſucceſſors ſhall have full power and authority to make, have and uſe, one common ſeal, with ſuch device and inſcription, as they ſhall think proper, and the ſame, to break, alter and renew at their pleaſure.

Corporation may ſue, &c.

SECT. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors by the name, ſtile and title aforeſaid, ſhall be able and capable in law to ſue and be ſued, plead, and be impleaded, in any court or courts, before any Judge or Judges, juſtice or juſtices, in all and all manner of ſuits, complaints, cauſes, matters and demands of whatſoever kind, nature or form they may be, and all and every other matter and thing therein to do, in as full and effectual a manner, as any other perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate in this commonwealth, in the like caſes may or can do.

Yearly income of real eſtate not to exceed £ 2000

SECT. IX. *Provided alſo, and it is further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the clear yearly value or income of the meſſuages, houſes, lands, tenements, rents, annuities or other hereditaments and real eſtate of the ſaid corporation, ſhall not exceed the ſum of two thouſand pounds, lawful money of the State of Pennſylvania, to be taken and eſteemed excluſive of the monies ariſing from the contributions of the actual members and donations of the honorary members, or other friends to the ſaid inſtitution.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Wedneſday *the twenty-ſeventh day of* February, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXXXVII.

An ACT *to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian Congregation of the Big Spring, in Newtown townſhip, in Cumberland county.*

Preamble.

Sect. I. WHEREAS the members of the firſt Preſbyterian Church of Big Spring, in the county of Cumberland, now under the paſtoral care of the Reverend Samuel Wilſon, have in a petition to this houſe prayed, that their ſaid church may be incorporated, and by law enabled, as a body politic and corporate, to receive and hold ſuch charitable donations and bequeſts as have been or may from time to time be made to their ſociety, and veſted with ſuch powers and privileges as are enjoyed by the religious ſocieties who are incorporated in the State of Pennſylvania: *And whereas* it is juſt and right and agreeably to the true ſpirit of the conſtitution that the prayer of their ſaid petition be granted,

Sect. II. *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That David Sterret, Robert Patterſon, Charles Leiper, Randle Blair, John M'Keehan, Samuel Finley and John Carſon, and their ſucceſſors duly elected and appointed in ſuch manner and form as herein after is directed, be, and they are hereby made and conſtituted a corporation and body politic, in law and in fact, to have continuance forever by the name, ſtile and title of "The Truſtees of the firſt Preſbyterian Church in Newtown townſhip in the county of Cumberland," that the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors by the name, ſtile, and title aforeſaid, ſhall for ever hereafter be capable and able in law, as well to take, have, receive, hold and enjoy, all and all manner of lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchiſes, and other hereditaments, which at any time heretofore have been granted, bargained, ſold, enfeoffed

Corporation conſtituted, & ſtile.

Corporation entitled to hold eſtates heretofore granted to them.

enfeoffed, releaſed, deviſed, or otherwiſe conveyed to the ſaid Preſbyterian Church, the congregation worſhipping there, or to any other perſon or perſons to their uſe or in truſt for them, and the ſaid lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchiſes and other hereditaments, are hereby veſted and eſtabliſhed in the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors for ever, according to the original uſe and intent for which ſuch deviſes, gifts and grants were reſpectively made. And the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors are hereby declared to be ſeized and poſſeſſed of ſuch eſtate and eſtates therein, as in and by the reſpective grants, bargains, ſales, enfeoffments, releaſes, deviſes or other conveyances thereof, is or are declared limited or expreſſed; and alſo that the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors aforeſaid, at all times hereafter ſhall be capable and able to purchaſe, have, receive, take, hold and enjoy in fee ſimple, or of any leſs eſtate or eſtates any lands, tenements, rents annuities, liberties, franchiſes and other hereditaments by the gift, grant, bargain, ſale, alienation, enfeoffment, releaſe, confirmation or deviſe of any perſon or perſons, bodies politic and corporate, capable and able to make the ſame: And further that the ſaid corporation as aforeſaid, may take and receive any ſum or ſums of money, and any manner or portion of goods and chattles that have been or ſhall be given or bequeathed to them by any perſon or perſons, bodies politic and corporate capable to make a bequeſt thereof, and the ſaid corporation are declared to be capable and able, and they are hereby authorized and impowered to grant, bargain, ſell, convey, aſſure, demiſe and to farm let, place out at intereſt or otherwiſe diſpoſe of the ſame in ſuch manner as to them or a majority of them, as herein after is directed, ſhall deem moſt beneficial and ſerviceable to the ſociety.

And hereafter capaciated to purchaſe lands, &c;

And to receieve money, &c. bequeathed to them &c.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That the ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors ſhall not by any deed, fine or recovery or by any other way or means, grant, bargain, ſell, alien, or otherwiſe diſpoſe of any manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, or hereditaments, the real eſtate of the ſaid church, in them or their ſucceſſors veſted or hereafter to be veſted, nor charge, nor incumber the ſame to any perſon or perſons whatever, except the ſame be done by conſent of a majority of the regular members of the ſaid church, qualified to vote as herein after is directed.

A majority of two thirds of Truſtees may make by-laws, &c.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors, or the majority of two thirds of them, met from time to time, either on their own adjournments or on public notice from the deſk or pulpit of ſaid church the preceding Lords day, commonly called Sunday, immediately after divine ſervice before the congregation is diſmiſſed, or after regular notice in writing left at the houſe of each truſtee, and the particular buſineſs having been mentioned, at leaſt, one meeting of the truſtees before, be authorized and empowered to make rules, bye-laws and ordinances, and to do every thing needful for the good government and ſupport of the ſecular affairs of the ſaid church.

Proviſo.

Provided, That the ſaid rules, bye-laws and ordinances or any of them be not repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth and that all their proceedings be fairly and regularly entered in a church book to be kept for that purpoſe.

Proviſo.

Provided alſo, That the ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors do and ſhall yearly and every year, upon the day of election of new truſtees, render a full and ſatisfactory account plainly ſtated to the congregation or a committee of the congregation appointed to receive the ſame, of all and every part of their proceedings while in truſt.

Corporation to conſiſt of ſeven members, and to be choſen by ballot, &c.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the ſaid corporation ſhall always conſiſt of ſeven members called and known by the name, ſtile and title of "The truſtees of the firſt Preſbyterian church in Newtown townſhip in the county of Cumberland," and ſhall at all times hereafter be choſen by ballot by a majority of the members met together, as ſhall have been enrolled in the aforeſaid book, as ſtated worſhippers with the ſaid church for no leſs than the ſpace of one year, and ſhall have paid one years pew rent or other annual ſum of money, not leſs than one dollar for the ſupport of the Paſtor or other officers of the church or other neceſſary expences of the ſaid church, and ſhall not at the time of voting, be more than one year in arrear for the ſame.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That the making ſale and diſpoſition of any part or parcel of the real eſtate of the ſaid corporation as well as the election of truſtees and all matters that require the conſent and concurrence of the major part of the congregation ſhall be determined by the plurality of the votes of the members ſo met, that the ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors met as aforeſaid, be authorized and empowered to elect from among themſelves, a Preſident and to elect from among themſelves or other members of the ſaid congregation a treaſurer and ſecretary, and the whole or any of them, to remove, change, alter or continue at pleaſure, as ſhall ſeem moſt for the benefit of the ſaid church and corporation.

To have a common ſeal, &c.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors ſhall have full power and authority to make, have and uſe one common ſeal, with ſuch device and inſcription as they ſhall think proper, and the ſame to break, alter and renew at pleaſure.

Corporation may ſue &c.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the ſaid corporation and their ſucceſſors, by the name, ſtile, and title aforeſaid, ſhall be capable and able in law, to ſue and be ſued, plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, before any judge or judges, juſtice, or juſtices, in all manner of ſuits, complaints, pleas, cauſes, matters and demands of whatever nature, kind or form they may be, and all and every matter and thing therein to do, in as full and effectual a manner as any other perſon or perſons, bodies politic and corporate within this Commonwealth may or can do.

Miniſter entitled to an equal vote, &c.

Sect. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the Paſtor or Miniſter of the ſaid church for the time being, ſhall be entitled to vote equally with any other member of the ſaid congregation, and that all and every perſon or perſons, qualified to vote and elect as aforeſaid, ſhall and may be capable and able to be voted and elected a Truſtee.

Rotation of truſtees regulated.

Sect. VIII. *An be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the ſaid David Sterret, Robert Patterſon, Charles Leiper, Randle Blair, John M'Keehan, Samuel Finley and John Carſon, the firſt and preſent truſtees hereby incorporated, ſhall be and continue truſtees, until removed in the manner following, that is to ſay, two ſevenths in number of the ſaid truſtees being the two firſt herein firſt named, ſhall ceaſe and diſcontinue, and their appointment determine on the firſt Tueſday in November, which ſhall be in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty nine: And two ſevenths being the ſecond two herein mentioned, ſhall ceaſe and diſcontinue, and their appointments determine on the firſt Tueſday in November, which ſhall be in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ninety, and on the firſt Tueſday in November, in the year then next following, three ſevenths being the laſt three in number of the ſaid truſtees ſhall in like manner ceaſe and diſcontinue, and their appointment determine, on which days in each of the aforeſaid mentioned years reſpectively, new elections ſhall be held of other truſtees in ſtead and in place of thoſe whoſe appointments ſhall have ceaſed and terminated, which manner of diſcontinuance, determination, and new appointments or election ſhall be continued on the ſaid firſt Tueſday in November in every year hereafter for ever. So that no perſon ſhall be or continue a truſtee longer than three years together, without being re-elected, which may be done whenever and as often as the members of the ſaid congregation qualified to vote as afore deſcribed, ſhall think fit.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That whenever any vacancy ſhall happen by death, refuſal to ſerve, or other removal of one or more of the ſaid truſtees, an election ſhall be held as ſoon as conveniently can be done, and ſome fit perſon or perſons choſen and appointed as before directed to ſupply ſuch vacancy, and that the remaining truſtees have power to call a meeting of the electors of the congregation for ſuch purpoſes.

Yearly income of real eſtate not to exceed £. 500 &c.

Sect. IX. *Provided always, and be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the clear yearly value, intereſt and income of the lands, tenements, rents, annuities and other hereditaments, and real eſtate of the ſaid corporation, ſhall not exceed the ſum of five hundred pounds, gold or ſilver money at the current value thereof in the commonwealth of

Pennſylvania, excluſive of pew rents and other free contributions, belonging to the aforeſaid congregation, which ſaid money ſhall be received by the ſaid truſtees and diſpoſed of by them for the purpoſe and in the manner herein before directed and deſcribed.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Wedneſday *the twenty-ſeventh*
Day of February *in the Year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty-eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXXXVIII.

A SUPPLEMENT *to an* ACT, *entitled,* “ *An* ACT *for raiſing by way of Lottery the ſum of Forty Two Thouſand Dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this State, and towards the improving the Navigation of the River Schuylkill.*

Sect. I. WHEREAS the nett produce of the Lottery directed to be drawn by An act of General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth, paſſed on the fifteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty four; doth not amount to a ſum ſufficient to anſwer very extenſively the good purpoſes intended thereby, ſo that it is conceived by this houſe, that the conduct of the buſineſs in the hands of Commiſſioners would create an unneceſſary expence, and it is conſidered that the monies will be more œconomically expended, if the Supreme Executive Council ſhall be inveſted with a power to direct the mode of applying the ſaid monies by contract or otherwiſe, as they ſhall deem proper. *And whereas* the monies ſo to be raiſed by the Lottery before mentioned, were directed by the ſaid recited act, to be appropriated agreeably to the laws then exiſting or which might thereafter be enacted for that purpoſe, and it is thought moſt conducive to the end propoſed, that the application ſhould be made to ſuch parts of the roads and river as can be effectually benefited by the ſum now raiſed, leaving the further improvement thereof to future exertions. PREAMBLE.

Sect. II. *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the*

ſame,

[illegible]. That the Supreme Executive Council of this State be, and they are hereby veſted with full powers and authorities, to direct the application of the produce of the Lottery aforeſaid, in manner following, that is to ſay, one full and equal moiety or half part thereof, heretofore appropriated to the repairing the weſtern roads, ſhall be expended and laid out on the road leading from the middle bridge on Schuylkill to Lancaſter, beginning at the weſtern ſide of the ſaid river and extending ſo far as can with the ſum hereby allotted therefor be effectually repaired and rendered permanently paſſable, but if the ſaid ſum ſhall not be ſufficient in the opinion of the ſaid council, according to the beſt information they can obtain, to extend to the repairs of a certain part of the ſaid road called Jones's Lane, which has heretofore been in the winter ſeaſon for the moſt part impaſſable, then and in ſuch caſe the ſaid council ſhall and they are hereby directed to cauſe that part of the ſaid road to be in the firſt inſtance effectually repaired and amended, and if it ſhall be thought proper, altered, ſo as to be rendered ſhorter and to run over better ground, and apply the reſidue of the ſaid moiety ſo far as the ſame will go, in manner herein before directed. And the ſaid Supreme Executive council are hereby further authorized and empowered to direct the other moiety or half part of the ſaid monies to be applied by contract or otherwiſe, to the improving the navigation of the river Schuylkill, in ſuch way and manner as to them ſhall ſeem expedient, having regard to the principles on which the application of the other moiety is directed to be made, ſo that what ſhall be laid out ſhall effectually improve the part to which it is applied, leſt by extending the object too far the deſign may be defeated. And the ſaid Supreme Executive Council are hereby authoriſed and empowered to draw orders on the State Treaſurer, to whom the managers of the ſaid Lottery are hereby directed to pay over the ſum produced by the ſame, for ſuch ſums not exceeding the amount of the ſum ſo produced, as the ſaid Supreme Executive Council ſhall from time to time deem neceſſary.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Monday *the third Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP.

CHAP. CXXXIX.

An ACT for erecting a certain diſtrict of Country in which the Court-Houſe *in* Cheſter *County ſtands, into a County-Town.*

Preamble.

SECT. I. WHEREAS a number of the inhabitants of Cheſter county have petitioned this houſe, that a certain diſtrict of country in which the court-houſe of the ſaid county ſtands, may be erected into a county town, and that the inhabitants of the ſaid town may be entitled to a like number of Juſtices of the Peace with other county towns, and it appearing that the public convenience will thereby be promoted.

Boundaries of the county town for Cheſter county.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That a certain diſtrict of country within the county aforeſaid, bounded as follows, viz. Beginning at the line which divides the townſhips of Eaſt Bradford and Goſhen at the corner of the lands of Charles Ryan and John Darlington, thence along the lines of the ſaid Charles Ryan, and the lands late of Thomas Williamſon, of Gideon Williamſon, and of Thomas Darlington, junior, to the lands of George Matlock, thence along the lines of the lands of George Matlock, William Shields, Jonathan Matlock and John Patton, to a line of the land of Doctor Joſeph Moore, thence to the line of the land of Iſaiah Matlock, thence, along the lines of the ſaid Iſaiah Matlock's land, and of the lands of Doctor Joſeph Moore and Thomas Hoops, to the road called the Goſhen ſtreet, thence along the ſaid ſtreet to the land of Benanuel Ogden, being the line which divides the townſhip of Eaſt Bradford from the townſhip of Goſhen, and from thence to the place of beginning, be, and hereby is erected into, and conſtituted the county town of and for the ſaid county of Cheſter, by the name and title of, "Weſt-Cheſter," and is hereby inveſted with and entitled to all the rights, privileges, immunities and advantages of a county town within this Commonwealth.

Name.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Monday *the third day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

C H A P. CXL.

An ACT *to enable the Commiſſioners of the County of Cheſter, to ſell and convey a certain Lot of Land in the Townſhip of Eaſt Caln, and County aforeſaid, for the uſe of the ſaid County.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS in and by an act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twentieth day of March, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, certain commiſſioners therein named, were empowered to purchaſe and take aſſurance of a lot of land in ſome convenient part of the county of Cheſter, and thereon to erect a Court Houſe and Priſon; in conſequence of which powers, and for ſaid uſes, the ſaid commiſſioners purchaſed a lot of land in the townſhip of Eaſt Caln.

And whereas in and by one other act paſſed the twenty-ſecond day of March one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty four, other commiſſioners were appointed for the purpoſes mentioned in the above recited act, with a proviſo, confining ſaid commiſſioners to certain limits upon which the buildings were to be erected: *And whereas* the commiſſioners appointed by the act laſt recited, have executed their truſt by erecting a Court Houſe and Priſon in the townſhip of Goſhen, by which the lot of land in Eaſt Caln is rendered of no uſe: *And whereas* the commiſſioners of ſaid county have by petition prayed, that a law may be paſſed enabling them to ſell and convey the ſaid lot.

Commiſſioners of Cheſter county to ſell a lot of land, belong- to ſaid county.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the commiſſioners in and for the county of Cheſter or any two of them, be, and they are hereby empowered and directed to expoſe to ſale by public vendue to the higheſt bidder a certain lot of land lying and being in the townſhip of Eaſt Caln, purchaſed from Roſanna Sheward, for the uſe of ſaid county, by William Clingan, Thomas Bull, John Kinkead, Roger Kirk, John Sellers, John Wilſon and Joſeph Davis, commiſſioners under the act firſt recited, bounded as follows, viz. Beginning at a marked hickory ſapling ſtanding on the north ſide of the Coneſtogo road, thence by ſaid road north ſeventy degrees and an half eaſt, ten perches to a poſt, thence by lands of ſaid Roſanna Sheward north eighteen degrees weſt ſixteen perches to a poſt, thence by ſaid Roſanna Sheward's land ſouth ſeventy one degrees and a half weſt ten perches to a poſt, thence ſouth eighteen degrees and a half eaſt ſixteen perches to the place of beginning, containing one acre be the ſame more or leſs.

The monies appropriated to uſe of the county.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the commiſſioners of the county aforeſaid, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to give aſſurance in the law to the purchaſer or purchaſers, his, her, or their heirs and aſſigns forever, and the monies ariſing therefrom ſhall be appropriated to the uſe of the county in the ſame manner that county rates and levies are appropriated.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Monday *the third Day of* March, *in the Year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLI.

An ACT to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of Marſh and Meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of Philadelphia and Cheſter, to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and flood gates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof.

Preamble.

Sect. I. WHEREAS there is a certain parcel of marſh and meadow land, ſituate in the townſhip of Kingſeſſing, in the county of Philadelphia, commonly known by the name of Boone's Iſland and Carcus-Hook marſh, and alſo other parcels of drained marſh, ſituate in the townſhip of Tinicum in the county of Cheſter, the whole of which ſeveral parcels is contained within the bounds following, to wit, beginning at the faſt land of Chriſtopher Elliott, to the ſouthward of ſaid Elliott's houſe, and adjoining to a piece of marſh which he has embanked at his own expence, thence by Darby creek to Green creek, thence by ſaid Green creek and Plumb creek to the river Delaware, thence up the ſame to Bow creek and up Bow creek to Boone's creek, and thence up the ſaid Boone's creek, to the faſt land near the houſe of the widow Cocks, thence by the faſt land to the dam now in uſe over Kingſeſſing creek to Boone's, Knowles's, Blakeney's and the State Iſlands, thence croſſing by the ſaid dam, to the faſt land on the north ſide of the ſaid creek, thence by the ſeveral courſes of the ſaid faſt land, to the place of beginning, which ſaid tract or parcel of marſh and meadow land hath been and now is embanked, but in as much as the banks, dams, ſluices and flood gates made for the ſtopping out the tide waters from the ſame and for preventing the overflowings thereof, cannot be equitably and ſufficiently maintained without a law.

Owners of certain meadows divided into two companies, viz. Tinicum and Kingſeſſing.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the ſaid tracts and parcels of meadow lands are hereby divided into the two certain diviſions following, that is to ſay, from a certain creek called Bow creek, including the Eaſtern dam and ſluice over ſaid Bow creek, and thence to the faſt land on Carcus-hook and Boon's Iſland, ſhall be henceforth called and named the Northern diviſion, and from the ſaid Bow-creek including the Weſtern dam and ſluice over the ſaid Bow creek, and thence to Plumb creek, ſhall be henceforth called and named the Southern diviſion, and that the ſaid owners, occupiers and poſſeſſors of meadow land in the Southern diviſion ſhall be called and named the Tinicum company, and the owners, occupiers and poſſeſſors of meadow land in the Northern diviſion ſhall be called and named, "The Kingſeſſing company."

Managers, &c. to be choſen third Monday in March, yearly.

SECT. III. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid companies reſpectively, or as many of them as ſhall think fit, to meet together on the third Monday in March yearly and every year, at the town of Darby or ſuch other convenient place as ſhall hereafter be appointed by the managers of each reſpective diviſion or any two of them to be choſen by virtue of this act, of which place and time of meeting the treaſurer of each diviſion reſpectively ſhall notify the owners and occupiers thereof by three advertiſements at leaſt, in each townſhip or diviſion, ten days before the day appointed for ſuch meeting, and then and there by a majority of thoſe met, ſhall chooſe by ticket in writing, three fit perſons owners or poſſeſſors of land in each reſpective diviſion before deſcribed, to be managers, and one fit perſon to be treaſurer of the ſaid diviſions reſpectively, for the year then next enſuing.

Manager elect refuſing, &c. to forfeit £. 3 &c. except, &c.

SECT. IV. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any of the owners or poſſeſſors elected managers as aforeſaid, on due notice given in writing of his election, by ſome of the company preſent at the ſaid election, ſhall refuſe or afterwards neglect to do the duty required of him or them by this act, he or they ſo refuſing or neglecting his duty, ſhall forfeit and pay to the treaſurer for the time being, of his or their diviſion, the ſum of three pounds, to be added to the common ſtock of the company of ſaid diviſion, unleſs he or they ſhall have ſerved two years ſucceſſively in the ſaid office next before his or their ſaid appointment, which fine ſhall be recovered in the manner herein after directed for the recovery of other money payable to the treaſurer of the ſaid diviſions reſpectively, and the other managers, or a majority of them, ſhall proceed in execution of their office without him or them, or if they think fit may chuſe others of the ſaid owners or poſſeſſors, to be manager or managers in the place of him or them ſo refuſing or neglecting; and if the perſon ſo elected treaſurer ſhall refuſe or neglect to take upon him the duties or to give the ſecurities required by this act, or ſhall miſbehave himſelf, or by death or otherwiſe be rendered incapable to execute the ſaid office, in any of theſe caſes, the managers for the time being, ſhall chuſe another fit perſon to be the treaſurer for that year.

SECT. V. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That every treaſurer hereafter to be choſen, ſhall before he takes upon him the execution of his office, enter into an obligation with at leaſt one ſufficient ſurety in double the value of the money that doth or may probably come into his hands during the continuance of his office as near as can be eſtimated by the managers, conditioned that he will once in every year, or oftner if required, render his accounts to the ſaid managers or a majority of them, and well and truly account, adjuſt and ſettle with them when required, for and concerning all monies that are or ſhall come to his hands by virtue of this act, or that belong to the owners of the land in the ſaid diviſions reſpectively, and ſhall well and truly pay the balance, that ſhall appear on ſuch ſettlement to be in his hands, to ſuch perſon and to ſuch ſervices, as any two of the managers for the time being ſhall order and appoint, and not otherwiſe; and that he will do and execute all other matters and things as treaſurer to the ſaid owners reſpectively, according to the true intent and meaning of this act, and that he will at the expiration of his office, well and truly pay, or cauſe to be paid and delivered all the money then remaining in his hands, together with the books of accounts concerning the ſame, and all other papers and writings in his keeping, belonging to the owners of the ſaid diviſions, reſpectively, unto his ſucceſſor in the ſaid office.

Treaſurer to enter into bond with at leaſt on ſurety &c.

SECT. VI. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the banks, dams, ſluices, and flood gates which belong to the ſaid diſtricts reſpectively, ſhall hereafter be maintained and ſupported by the managers reſpectively in common, for which purpoſe it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid managers of each reſpective diviſion, or any two of them, as

Managers of both diſtrict, to maintain the banks &c. reſpectively, in common.

often as they ſhall ſee occaſion to meet together and lay ſuch aſſeſments and taxes on every acre of land in their ſaid reſpective diſtricts, as they ſhall judge to be neceſſary for the benefit and ſecurity of the ſame.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That previous to ſuch reparation and maintenance in common, thoſe banks which are now deficient ſhall be made and put in equal good order with the beſt, at the expence and coſt of the reſpective owners, to which they now belong, by the managers of the reſpective diſtricts, and the owners or occupiers of land, on which the banks are, ſhall ſow the ſaid banks with graſs ſeed, from time to time, when neceſſary, and ſhall mow and keep them clean at ſuch times as the managers ſhall order and direct.

Diſpoſal of money veſted in any two managers.

SECT. VII. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the managers for the time being of each reſpective diviſion or any two of them ſhall have the power of diſpoſing of all monies paid to the treaſurer by virtue of this act, and of hiring and appointing at the expence of the ſaid diviſions reſpectively any perſon or perſons, from time to time to inſpect the condition of all the banks, dams, ſluices and flood gates belonging to the ſaid diviſions, and to offer and pay ſuch rewards as they think neceſſary out of the common ſtock, for the deſtruction of ſuch vermin as uſually damage the banks and dams, as well as for all other general ſervices of the ſaid diviſions reſpectively.

A majority of managers to cauſe Boone's Dam to be repaired, &c.

SECT. VIII. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the managers of the ſaid diſtricts or a majority of either of them reſpectively are hereby authorized, empowered and required to raiſe and repair a certain dam commonly called Boone's dam, in ſuch manner as ſhall to them appear moſt effectual, and ſhall have full power and authority to aſſeſs and levy on all the lands in the ſaid diſtricts ſuch ſums of money as may be neceſſary for the ſaid purpoſe, and collect the ſame by the methods herein after directed.

A dam to be made acroſs Bow Creek.

SECT. IX. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the managers of the ſaid diſtricts or a majority of them may, if it ſhall appear to them neceſſary, make a dam and ſufficient ſluice therein acroſs Bow creek near its junction with the Delaware, in ſuch place and manner as ſhall in their opinion be moſt ſuitable, and raiſe money to defray the expence thereof by a tax on the ſaid diſtricts, and when the ſaid dam and ſluice is fully perfected, they ſhall be thereafter maintained and ſupported by the managers of the ſaid Northern diviſion.

Sect. X. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the major part of the managers for the time being of each diſtrict reſpectively, ſhall at leaſt three times in each year hereafter, at ſuch times as they think neceſſary, by written or printed advertiſements publiſhed in three or more places in each diſtrict, at leaſt ten days before the time therein to be appointed, require the owners or occupiers of all meadow lands in the ſaid diſtricts reſpectively, to cut all Ranſted, Elders, Poke, Thiſtles, Burdock and other weeds which may be injurious to the ſaid meadows, and ſhould the owners or occupiers of the ſaid lands or any of them neglect to cut or mow the ſame at ſuch times as they ſhall be ſo required; it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid managers and they are hereby enjoined and required to hire and employ a ſufficient number of men to cut or mow the ſame, and fine the ſaid owner or occupier for their neglect, in any ſum not exceeding the coſt of the ſaid cutting or mowing, and recover the money ſo expended and the fine ſo impoſed in like manner as other ſums of money are by this act directed to be recovered, which fines ſhall be applied to the benefit of the ſaid diſtricts reſpectively.

All Ranſted, &c. to be cut &c.

Sect. XI. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all creeks or ditches which now are or hereafter ſhall be made in the ſaid diſtricts of the width of nine feet, and of the depth of three feet, ſhall be deemed and conſidered in law as lawful fences and encloſures, and if any owner or occupier ſhall find on his or her land ſo encloſed as aforeſaid, any Swine or Hogs, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid owner or occupier to ſeize and take all ſuch Swine or Hogs, whether yoked and ringed or not, and being legally atteſted before the next juſtice, that ſuch Swine or Hogs were taken in his or her meadow lands ſo encloſed, the ſaid juſtice ſhall forthwith order and direct the treaſurer of the ſaid diſtrict reſpectively, to advertiſe the ſame, and within five days ſell at public auction all ſuch Swine, and after deducting all reaſonable coſt divide the remainder equally between the managers for the uſe of the diſtrict wherein ſuch Swine were taken, and the perſon ſo taking them up.

Lawful encloſures fixed and directed.

Sect. XII. *And whereas* the cutting or making drains or ditches in ſuitable places and ſecuring thoſe now made or which may hereafter be made, will greatly conduce to the better improvement of the ſaid meadows: *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the major part of the managers of the ſaid diſtricts reſpectively, ſhall, at ſuch times and ſo often as they ſee occaſion, direct and order that new drains or ditches be made where neceſſary, or thoſe which are already made, ſcoured, and apportioned the coſt of making and ſcouring the ſame amongſt thoſe benefited thereby, or order ſuch compenſation to thoſe who may be injured, as ſhall appear to them juſt and reaſonable, and compel payment in the manner herein after directed.

Owners, &c, ſupporting a grievance, to have an arbitration.

Sect. XIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any owner or occupier ſhall think him, her or themſelves aggrieved by any act, order, account, proceeding or neglect of any of the ſaid managers of either diviſion, ſuch owner or occupier ſhall, if he or they think proper, chuſe two fit and diſintereſted perſons, and the ſaid managers, or any two of them, ſhall chuſe two other fit and diſintereſted perſons, who if occaſion be, ſhall chuſe a fifth perſon alike diſintereſted, and the perſons ſo choſen, or any three of them, ſhall finally ſettle the ſame, and all matters and things in diſpute that ſhall be referred to them by the parties.

All bonds, &c. to be taken in the name of the treaſurer of the reſpective companies, and for the uſe of the owners, &c.

Sect. XIV. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the orders of any two of the managers on the treaſurer of the reſpective diviſions for the time being, ſhall be complied with by the ſaid treaſurer, and ſhall be good vouchers to indemnify him for the payment and delivery of the money and effects committed to his care by virtue of this act, and that all bonds, mortgages, deeds and conveyances in truſt for the uſe of the ſaid owners, ſhall be taken in the name of the treaſurer of the Tinicum or Kingſeſſing companies reſpectively, and be payable to him and his ſucceſſors, and ſhall be mentioned to be for the uſe of the owners thereof, and with or without aſſignment, ſhall be good and available in law to his ſucceſſor or ſucceſſors in the ſaid truſt, for the uſe of the owners as aforeſaid, and ſhall be recoverable in any court of record in this Commonwealth where the ſame may be cognizable, as fully and effectually to all intents and purpoſes as if the ſame were private property and duly aſſigned in all the forms of law, and the receipts and diſcharges of ſuch ſucceeding treaſurer or treaſurers, for any ſuch ſum or ſums of money paid to him or them ſhall be effectual in law.

Sect. XV. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if the banks, dams, ſluices, floodgates and other conveniences, made or to be made for the ſecurity and preſervation of the ſaid meadows, ſhall be out of repair in either of the diviſions aforeſaid, and the managers of ſuch diviſion wherein the ſaid banks, dams, ſluices, floodgates and other conveniences ſo out of repair as aforeſaid

ſaid may be, ſhall neglect or refuſe upon notice given thereof by the managers of the other diviſion, or any of them, to make, amend and repair the ſame, that then and in every ſuch caſe, it ſhall and may be lawful for the managers of the diviſion from whom ſuch notice ſhall be given, to enter into the ſaid diviſion ſo out of repair, and to make, amend and repair the ſame, and to recover and levy the coſts, charges and expences thereof, in the ſame manner as if they were the managers of and for the diviſion ſo out of repair, any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

In caſes of neglect to repair, managers of either diviſion may cauſe to repair, &c.

Offenders maliciouſly breaking banks, &c. to be fined treble value.

Sect. XVI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any perſon or perſons ſhall wickedly and maliciouſly cut through, break down or damage any of the banks, dams, ſluices or floodgates to the aforeſaid diviſions, or either of them belonging, or ſhall let in any creek or water to annoy, injure or overflow any of their neighbours lands, and ſhall thereof be convicted before the Juſtices of the Court of quarter Seſſions of either of the ſaid counties of Philadelphia or Cheſter, in which the ſame may happen, in all ſuch caſes, the perſon or perſons ſo offending ſhall be fined treble the value of the damages, to be aſſeſſed by two or more indifferent perſons to be appointed by the ſaid courts reſpectively to value the ſame, one third part of which fine ſhall be paid to the perſons injured, and the remaining two thirds thereof ſhall be added to the common ſtock of the reſpective diviſion, for the general uſe and benefit thereof.

Owners, &c. neglecting to pay aſſeſſments to be proceeded againſt as in caſes of debts under £. 10.

Sect. XVII. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any of the ſaid owners, occupiers or poſſeſſors of meadow lands within the aforeſaid diſtricts, ſhall neglect or refuſe to pay the ſeveral ſums of money that ſhall from time to time be rated, aſſeſſed or impoſed by the major part of the managers of either of the ſaid diviſions for paying and diſcharging their reſpective proportions, for maintaining the banks, dams and ſluices to the ſaid diſtricts or either of them belonging, or for making or ſcouring drains or ditches when thereunto required as aforeſaid, for the ſpace of thirty days after demand made by the treaſurer of the reſpective diviſion, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid ſeveral treaſurers, by the direction of the major part of the managers for the time being reſpectively in his own name to ſue for and recover the ſeveral ſums of money ſo charged and aſſeſſed, in the ſame manner as debts not exceeding ten pounds are by law recoverable and give this act and the ſaid aſſeſſment or the ſaid account in evidence; *Provided always,* That ſuch delinquent

Proviſo.

owner, occupier or poſſeſſor ſhall not be entitled to ſtay of execution for any longer time than ten days, or it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſeveral treaſurers, by the directions of the managers as aforeſaid, in his own name to apply to ſome juſtice of the peace of the county for his warrant of diſtreſs, for levying the ſaid ſums of money ſo neglected or refuſed to be paid, directed to the conſtable of the townſhip where the meadows are, which ſaid warrant the ſaid juſtice of the peace is hereby empowered and directed to grant accordingly, to be by the ſaid conſtable levied on the tract or piece of marſh meadow belonging as aforeſaid, to ſuch owner or owners ſo neglecting, and deliver the ſame over unto the managers reſpectively for the time being, who, or a major part of them are hereby empowered and authorized to let the ſame on rent, or any part thereof that may be ſufficient, belonging to ſuch delinquent owner or owners ſo neglecting as aforeſaid, from time to time, for ſo long time as until the rent or rents ariſing therefrom, ſhall as nearly as may be computed, pay all ſuch ſum or ſums of money ſo aſſeſſed, charged or impoſed, together with all coſts and reaſonable expences ariſing thereon, for his, her or their neglect or refuſal to pay the ſame as aforeſaid, and no longer; *Provided always*, That in letting out the ſaid meadow land, the ſaid managers do publicly notify the leaſing thereof, and let the ſame to the higheſt bidder at public ſale.

Proviſo.

Managers to inſpect at leaſt four times each year, &c.

SECT. XVIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid managers reſpectively to meet together, as often as they ſhall ſee occaſion, to direct the neceſſary repairs, and the ſaid managers or a majority of them for the time being reſpectively, are hereby empowered, authorized and required to enter upon and inſpect, at leaſt four times in each year, the condition of all the ſaid banks, dams, ſluices, floodgates and other conveniences neceſſary for ſtopping out the tides and draining the water from the ſaid meadows, and it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid managers reſpectively or any of them, together with ſuch workmen, horſes, carts, barrows and other tools, as they ſhall think neceſſary, to enter into and upon any of the lands in the ſaid diviſions, where a breach or defect now is or ſhall hereafter happen to be, and then and there to dig and carry earth, or purchaſe ſuitable materials, to make amend and repair the ſaid banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates, and all other conveniences neceſſary for ſtopping out the tide or for draining the waters off the meadows, in ſuch manner and by ſuch ways and means as they the ſaid managers, or a majority of them reſpectively, ſhall think fit and reaſonable, any law, uſage or cuſtom of this Commonwealth, to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Pay of managers.

SECT. XIX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That the managers of the ſaid diſtricts reſpectively ſhall each of them have and receive ten ſhillings per day, for each day that they ſhall be employed in the ſeveral duties required of them, and the treaſurers ſhall have ſuch compenſation for their ſervices as a major part of the managers of each reſpective diviſion ſhall think adequate.

This act to comprehend the rights of Long-Hook company.

SECT. XX. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That ſhould the managers of a certain diſtrict of meadows, called Long-Hook Company, neglect to keep and maintain the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates to the ſaid company belonging, in good order and repair, and the owners or occupiers of meadow lands in the aforeſaid ſouthern diviſion be injured thereby, or ſhould the managers of the ſaid ſouthern diviſion neglect to do their duty according to the true intent and meaning of this act, in either caſe it ſhall and may be lawful for the managers of the ſaid company and diviſion, or a majority of either of them, to enter into the company or diviſion ſo neglecting, in the ſame manner and with the ſame powers and authorities as is given to the managers of the aforeſaid diviſions in the fifteenth ſection of this act.

Mode of determining matters in diſpute between managers of northern diviſion & managers of lower dam, acroſs Mingo creek.

SECT. XXI. *And whereas* a dam hath been made acroſs Mingo or Kingſeſſing creek, nearer the mouth of the ſaid creek than the aforeſaid dam called Boone's dam, with a ſluice or ſluices therein, and ſhould the managers thereof neglect to keep the ſaid ſluice or ſluices in good order and repair, and properly laid to diſcharge the waters of the ſaid creek, the meadow lands in the aforeſaid northern diviſion may be greatly damaged to the injury of the owners and occupiers of land in the ſaid diviſion; for remedy whereof, *Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That ſhould thoſe who may have the care and management of the ſaid lower dam and ſluice or ſluices, refuſe or neglect to keep the ſame in good order and repair, and properly laid in order ſufficiently to diſcharge the waters from the ſaid creek, that then and in ſuch caſe, if the managers of the ſaid northern diviſion and thoſe who may have the care and management of the ſaid dam and ſluice or ſluices, diſagree reſpecting the order and repair of the ſame, they may refer all matters in diſpute to three or more indifferent perſons, whoſe judgment ſhall be concluſive; but ſhould thoſe who may have the care and management of the ſaid dam neglect or refuſe to refer the matters in difference as aforeſaid, the managers of the ſaid northern diviſion or a majority of them may apply to ſome juſtice of the peace of the county in which the ſaid lands are, who is hereby authoriſed and required to appoint three or more indifferent perſons to ſettle all ſuch matters in diſpute, whoſe orders and directions reſpecting the ſame, ſhall be binding on all parties: But ſhould thoſe who may have the care and management of the ſaid dam, in either caſe, neglect to perform their duty when determined as aforeſaid, it ſhall and may be lawful for a major part of the managers of the ſaid northern diviſion to alter amend and repair the ſame, agreeable to the deciſion of the ſaid referees, or of thoſe appointed by the ſaid juſtice, and recover the monies ſo expended and coſt to be taxed by the ſaid juſtice, in the ſame manner as is directed in the ſeventeenth ſection of this act.

Repealing clauſe. SECT. XXII. *And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That an act of Aſſembly of the province of Pennſylvania, entitled, " An act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of Philadelphia and Cheſter, to keep the banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof; and another act of Aſſembly of the ſaid province, entitled, " A ſupplement to an act, entitled, " An act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of marſh and meadow land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of Philadelphia and Cheſter to keep the banks, dams, ſluices, and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof," and another act of Aſſembly of the ſaid Province, entitled, " An act for a new regulation of the allotments of banks, dams, ſluices and floodgates belonging to the Tinicum Company, owners and poſſeſſors of drained meadow land in the townſhip of Ridley, in the county of Cheſter;" and alſo another act of Aſſembly of the ſaid Province, entitled, " An act for amending each and every of the acts of Aſſembly of this Province heretofore made for embanking and draining ſeveral parcels of marſh land, ſituate in the counties of Philadelphia and Cheſter, and for repairing and maintaining the banks, dams and ſluices thereunto belonging;" ſo far as they relate to the aforeſaid diſtricts or diviſions, ſhall be and are hereby repealed and made null and void.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Monday, *the tenth day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLII.

An ACT *to incorporate and endow an Academy or public School, in the borough of* Reading *in the county of* Berks.

Preamble. SECT. I. WHEREAS the education of youth has ever been found to be of the moſt eſſential conſequences as well to the good government of ſtates, and the peace and welfare

fare of ſociety, as to the profit and ornament of individuals; inſomuch, that from the experience of all ages it appears, that ſeminaries of learning, when properly conducted, have been public bleſſings to mankind, ſo that much of the happineſs and proſperity of every community depends on the proper inſtruction of youth who muſt ſucceed the aged in the important buſineſs of life, and as an academy or public ſchool in the borough of Reading and county of Berks, for the education of youth, is likely to contribute to the welfare of the community, and this houſe chearfully concurring in ſo laudable a work, therefore;

Reading academy conſtituted.

Sect. II. *Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame.* That there ſhall be and hereby is erected and eſtabliſhed in the borough of Reading in the county of Berks an academy or public ſchool for the education of youth in uſeful arts, ſciences and literature, by the name ſtile and title of "Reading academy.

Truſtees appointed.

Sect. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the firſt truſtees of the ſaid academy, ſhall conſiſt of the following perſons, viz, The honorable Thomas Mifflin, Eſq; the Reverend William Ingold, the Reverend Frederick Wilbohn the Reverend William Boos, Daniel Broadhead, Daniel Hieſter, junior, James Biddle, Joſeph Heiſter, Collinſon Read, Daniel Clymer, Doctor James Diemer, Cadwalader Morris, George Egè, Joſeph Sands, Chriſtopher Lower, Charles Shoemaker, Nicholas Lutz, John Biſhop, Thomas Dundaſs, Paul Groſſcup, John Eckert, John Otto, Daniel Levan, Eſquires, Jacob Winey, John Hartman, Henry Hahn, ſenior, Peter Nagle, John Strohecker and Daniel Udre, to meet the fourteenth day of May, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight, in the borough of Reading, at the houſe of John Hartman, which ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors to be elected as herein after mentioned, ſhall forever hereafter be, and they are hereby erected, eſtabliſhed and declared to be one body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, to all intents and purpoſes, with perpetual ſucceſſion by the name and title of, "The truſtees of the academy in the borough of Reading and county of Berks," by which name and title, they and their ſucceſſors ſhall be competent and capable in law and in equity to take and hold to them and their ſucceſſors for the uſe of the ſaid academy, any eſtate in any meſſuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattles, monies, or other effects, by the gift, grant, bargain, ſale, conveyance, aſſurance, will, deviſe or bequeſt of any perſon or perſons whatſoever capable of making the ſame, and the ſame meſſuages, lands, tenements hereditaments and eſtates, real and perſonal, to grant, bargain, ſell, convey, aſſure, deviſe, and to farm let out, on intereſt or otherwiſe diſpoſe of for the uſe of the ſaid academy, either

Declared a body corporate with the powers incident thereto.

either to build, rebuild or enlarge, or otherwiſe alter the ſchool houſe for the accommodation of the ſcholars at the aforeſaid academy, or to erect or make any new building, in ſuch manner as to them or at leaſt ſeven of them ſhall ſeem moſt beneficial to the inſtitution, and to recover the rents, iſſues, profits, income and intereſt of the ſame, and to apply the ſame to the benefit, uſe and ſupport of the ſaid academy; and by the ſame name and title as aforeſaid, to ſue, commence, proſecute, and plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, before any judge or judges, juſtice or juſtices, in all and every manner of ſuits, complaints, pleas, cauſes, matters and demands of whatſoever nature, kind or form they may be, and all and every matter and thing therein to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other perſon or perſons, bodies politic or corporate within this commonwealth may or can do, and to hold, enjoy and exerciſe all ſuch powers, authorities and juriſdictions touching and concerning the premiſes, which ſhall be incidentally neceſſary thereto, in every caſe, matter or thing relative to the management, or in any wiſe neceſſary for the good government of the aforeſaid academy.

To have one common ſeal.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſaid truſtees and their ſucceſſors, ſhall have full power and authority to uſe one common ſeal with ſuch device and inſcription thereon, as they ſhall think proper, under and by which all deeds, certificates and acts of the ſaid corporation ſhall paſs and be authenticated, and the ſaid ſeal to break, alter and renew at their pleaſure,

Seven truſtees a quorum to make bye laws, &c.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That any ſeven of the ſaid truſtees ſhall be a quorum to tranſact all the buſineſs of the ſaid academy, particularly of making and enacting ordinances and bye-laws for the government of the ſaid academy, of electing truſtees in the room of thoſe who ſhall be removed by death or reſignation, of electing and appointing maſters and tutors of ſaid academy, of agreeing with them for their ſalaries and removing them for miſconduct and breaches of the laws of the inſtitution, of appointing a ſecretary, ſtewards, managers and other neceſſary officers for taking care of the eſtate, and managing the concerns of the corporation, and ſhall determine all matters and things, although the ſame be not herein particularly mentioned, which ſhall occaſionally ariſe and be eventually neceſſary to be determined and tranſacted by the ſaid truſtees.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That no ordinance or bye-laws ſhall be of force which ſhall be repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth, and that all their laws and proceedings be fairly and regularly entered in a book to be kept for that purpoſe.

No miſnomer.

SECT. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That no miſnomer of the ſaid corporation ſhall defeat or annul any gift, grant, deviſe or bequeſt to the ſaid corporation, provided the intent of the parties ſhall ſufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, grant, will or other writing, whereby any eſtate or intereſt was intended to paſs to the ſaid corporation, nor ſhall any diſ-uſer or non-uſer of the rights, liberties, privileges, juriſdictions and authorities hereby granted to the ſaid corporation, create or in any wiſe cauſe a forfeiture thereof.

Shall affect the corporation, &c.

Sect. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That no ſale or alienation of the real eſtate of the ſaid corporation which ſhall have been made by the ſaid truſtees or their ſucceſſors, *bona fide*, for a valuable conſideration, in caſe the poſſeſſion thereof paſs immediately to the purchaſer or purchaſers thereof, and continue in him, her or them, his, her or their heirs or aſſigns, ſhall be invalidated for want of proving that ſeven of the truſtees of the ſaid corporation conſented to ſuch ſale or alienation, unleſs the ſame be controverted within the ſpace of ſeven years, from and after the ſale and delivery of ſuch real eſtate to the purchaſer or purchaſers thereof.

No alienation to be invalidated, except, &c.

Sect. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That five thouſand acres of land, together with ſix per centum allowance for roads, be laid off and ſurveyed within the unappropriated lands of this Commonwealth, be and they are hereby granted to the ſaid truſtees of Reading Academy in the county of Berks, to have and to hold the ſame to them, their ſucceſſors and aſſigns forever. And on the application of the ſaid truſtees or of any perſon duly authoriſed by them, the ſecretary of the land-office of this ſtate he ſhall and hereby is required to grant and iſſue ſuch and ſo many warrants to be directed to the ſurveyor general, requiring him to ſurvey or cauſe to be ſurveyed for the truſtees of the ſaid academy, ſuch and ſo many tracts of land, with ſuch number of acres in each warrant as ſhall be applied for at each application, in ſuch places not otherwiſe appropriated by acts of aſſembly of this commonwealth, as ſhall in the whole amount to the ſaid quantity of five thouſand acres, with the uſual allowance, and the ſurveyor general ſhall receive and enter all ſuch warrants in his office and iſſue copies thereof directed to his deputies in the different counties and diſtricts within the ſtate, and the ſaid deputies ſhall duly execute the ſame, and make returns thereof, and thereupon ſuch proceedings ſhall be had and patents or grants of confirmation for the ſame ſhall be iſſued and granted to the ſaid truſtees of the ſaid academy in like manner and form, and having like force and effect as the like proceedings and patents have been and are conducted and granted in caſe of private perſons making applications for and taking up lands under the laws of this commonwealth, provided that no warrant iſſue for leſs than five hundred acres, and that the ſame be included in one ſurvey.

Endowment of £. 5000 acres of land with allowance granted.

Sect.

Surveys to be at the charge of the ſtate, &c.

SECT. IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all and every the tract and tracts of land, hereby directed to be ſurveyed for the uſe of the ſaid academy, ſhall be ſo done at the charge of this ſtate, and the Preſident or vice-Preſident in council are hereby authoriſed and empowered to draw orders on the treaſurer of this State to pay and defray all the charges ariſing thereupon.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Monday *the tenth Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLIII.

An additional Supplement to the ACTS *for the regulation of the Militia of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS the preſent laws for the regulation of the Militia of this Commonwealth, prove very burthenſome and expenſive to thoſe who ſpend their time in attending on muſter days, as well as to thoſe who from conſciencious ſcruples or otherwiſe neglect or refuſe to give ſuch attendance, and more eſpecially as the benefits derived or which can poſſibly be expected to be derived to the ſtate under the preſent ſyſtem are by no means proportionate to the certain loſs and expence incurred thereby: *And whereas* it is conceived that the preſent laws for the regulation of the Militia of this Commonwealth might be rendered leſs burthenſome by leſſening the days of exerciſe and improved by furniſhing the Militia with powder, in order to go through their firings on ſuch days as may be thought neceſſary for them to attend on military duty.

Lieutenants to furniſh 13 cartridges for every militia man bearing arms on battalion days.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the Lieutenant of the city of Philadelphia and of the ſeveral counties within this Commonwealth, are hereby empowered and required to furniſh the officers commanding battalions or corps, for every Militia Man bearing arms in ſuch battalions or corps, within the city and ſeveral counties aforeſaid, with thirteen cartridges, for the purpoſe of going through their firings every battalion day, whereon by law they are required to attend military duty, and to apply ſo much of the money ariſing from fines on delinquents for their non-attendance on militia duty as will defray ſaid expence. *Provided always*, That the delivery of cartridges by the commanding officers reſpectively ſhall be confined to the men actually under arms, and if ſuch commanding officers reſpectively ſhall have received more cartridges than are neceſſary agreeably to this act for the number of men actually appearing under arms on the parade, they ſhall return the overplus agreeably to a field return to be delivered to the reſpective county Lieutenants in convenient time after each battalion day.

Fine for non-attendance.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That from and after the paſſing of this act, the fine on non-commiſſioned officers and privates for non-attendance on Militia duty, every battalion day whereon by law, the enrolled Militia within this Commonwealth are required to attend Militia duty ſhall be the ſum of ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence and no more.

Repealing clauſe.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That ſo much of the act of General Aſſembly, entitled, "A further ſupplement to the act entitled, an act for the regulation of the militia of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania," as requires the enrolled Militia to meet in companies on the ſeveral days therein mentioned, and which impoſes a fine of five ſhillings on ſuch as neglect or refuſe to meet on ſuch days of exerciſe, is hereby repealed and made null and void, any thing in the ſeveral laws of this Commonwealth for the regulation of the Militia contained, to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

And whereas, ſeveral of the Freemen of the city of Philadelphia, with a view to render themſelves as uſeful to their country in the character of militia as poſſible, have voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves into a troop of Light Dragoons, and are deſirous of being authorized and eſtabliſhed as ſuch by law.

An additional troop of militia light dragoons for the city.

SECT. V. *Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That in addition to the troop of militia Light Dragoons for the ſaid city already formed under the laws of this Commonwealth, there ſhall be one other troop of Light Dragoons for the ſaid city formed by volunteer aſſociation of the Freemen of the ſaid city, (including thoſe perſons who have already voluntarily aſſociated and formed themſelves as aforeſaid) to conſiſt of one captain, one firſt Lieutenant, one ſecond Lieutenant, one Cornet, four Serjeants, four Corporals, one Farrier, one trumpeter and ſixty-eight privates, which ſaid additional troop ſhall be under the like rules and regulations with the other militia troop of Light Dragoons within this Commonwealth, and the officers of the ſaid corps ſhall be accordingly and in like manner commiſſioned by the Supreme Executive Council.

And whereas ſome of the Militia of this State have voluntarily formed themſelves into companies of light-armed Infantry and have attached themſelves to the battalions from which they have been reſpectively formed, and others influenced by their example may be deſirous of forming like companies from other battalions:

Volunteers compoſing light infantry authoriſed, and to be organiſed.

SECT. VI. *Therefore be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That it ſhall and may be lawful for the volunteers compoſing the aforeſaid companies of Light Infantry, to elect by ballot one Captain, one firſt and one ſecond Lieutenant, and that the non-commiſſioned officers of ſuch companies ſhall be appointed in like manner as is uſual in the other militia, and the ſaid companies reſpectively may conſiſt of ſixty-eight men, excluſive of officers, provided ſuch number have joined or hereafter ſhall join ſuch companies, and ſhall be attached to and act with the battalion from which they are or ſhall be formed, and be ſubject to like rules and regulations as the other militia of this ſtate.

A company of light infantry to conſiſt of 40.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That whenever forty volunteers from any battalion within this Commonwealth ſhall ſignify to the commanding officer thereof, their intention of forming a company of Light Infantry, and ſhall be willing to equip and cloath themſelves in uniform for that purpoſe, it ſhall be lawful for them to elect their officers, and thereafter they may conſiſt of like number, and ſhall be governed and regulated in like manner as the companies mentioned in the ſection laſt preceeding.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Saturday *the twenty-ſecond*
Day of March *in the Year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty-eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLIV.

An ACT *for deſtroying the Bills of Credit of this Commonwealth emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of June one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entitled " An act for funding and redeeming the Bills of Credit of the United States of America, and for providing means to bring the preſent war to a happy concluſion.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS in purſuance of the above recited act, bills of credit of this State to the amount of one million, four hundred and ninety five thouſand dollars were emitted on the credit of this State, to be redeemed thereby, on or before the thirty firſt day of December in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſix, with intereſt at five *per centum*, per annum, and the redemption thereof guarantied by the United States in caſe of the inſolvency of this State through the deſolation of war.

And whereas four tenths of the ſaid bills of credit ſo emitted were ſubjected to the orders of the United States and to be credited to this State in the accounts with the United States, and the remaining ſix tenths were placed in the Continental Loan Office, to be delivered over to the Treaſurer of this State from time to time, in proportion as the payments were made of the quota required of this State in the requiſition of Congreſs for ſinking the old Continental bills of credit.

And whereas by a negociation between the United States and this Commonwealth in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, the reſidue of the ſaid four tenths not then iſſued by the United States was exchanged for a like ſum in bills of credit of this State of another emiſſion, which was paid to the United States by the Treaſurer of this State, whereby the ſaid reſidue became redeemed.

And whereas this State hath paid to the United States her full quota of the requiſition of Congreſs for ſinking the old continental bills of credit and is thereby entitled to receive the whole of the ſix tenths aforeſaid. *And whereas* by an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the ſeventeenth day of March, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſix, funds were aſſigned for the redemption of all ſuch of the bills of credit aforeſaid, as had been iſſued by the United States or by this State, which had not been otherwiſe redeemed. *And whereas* it is proper and neceſſary that the ſaid bills when redeemed ſhould be ſunk and deſtroyed; therefore,

Certain bills of credit to be deſtroyed.

SECT. II. *Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That all the bills of credit emitted in purſuance of the ſaid firſt recited act, which now are or hereafter may be in the Treaſury of this State, be examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed from time to time in ſuch manner as the General Aſſembly ſhall ſee fit to direct.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Saturday *the twenty-ſecond Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

C H A P. CXLV.

A Supplement to the act, entitled, an act for regulating the meaſurement of Corn *and* Salt, *imported into the* Port *of* Philadelphia.

PREAMBLE.

Sect. I. WHEREAS large quantities of Coal are imported or brought into the port and city of Philadelphia for ſale, in the meaſurement whereof frequent diſputes ariſe.

Meaſurer of corn to be meaſurer of coal.

Sect. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the meaſurer of corn and ſalt imported or brought into the port and city of Philadelphia for ſale, ſhall be the meaſurer of all Coal imported or brought into the ſaid port and city of Philadelphia for ſale, and that the ſaid meaſurer ſhall at his own coſt provide a ſufficient number of two buſhel tub meaſures, and have the ſame compared with, and regulated by the public ſtandard meaſure kept in the city of Philadelphia, and ſhall have the ſame powers, and be ſubject to the ſame rules, regulations and penalties as are by the ſaid act directed for the meaſurement of corn and ſalt, imported into the city and port of Philadelphia.

Fees for meaſuring coal.

Sect. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the allowance for meaſurement of Coal imported into the city and port of Philadelphia, ſhall be at the rate of one ſhilling for every hundred buſhels, to be paid by the buyers, and one ſhilling for every hundred buſhels, to be paid by the ſellers, who ſhall cauſe the ſame to be filled into the meaſures and no more.

And whereas conſiderable quantities of Lime are from time to time imported and brought into the city of Philadelphia, the diſtrict of Southwark and townſhip of the Northern Liberties, and diſputes concerning the admeaſurement thereof frequently occur.

Meaſurer to determine in diſputes concerning meaſuring of lime.

Sect. IV. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That in caſe any diſpute ſhall hereafter ariſe reſpecting the admeaſurement of Lime imported or brought for ſale into the ſaid city of Philadelphia or parts adjacent thereto within one mile from the Court Houſe in the ſaid City, the ſame ſhall be determined by the meaſurer herein before appointed for Corn, Salt and Coals, who is hereby authoriſed and empowered to meaſure, according to the uſual and proper mode of meaſuring that article, all Lime, concerning the admeaſurement whereof diſputes may happen, at the inſtance of either of the parties, between whom ſuch diſpute or difference may ariſe; and the ſaid meaſurer ſhall be paid by the party who ſhall be found by the ſaid meaſurer in the wrong in ſuch diſpute or difference, the ſum of one penny for every buſhel ſo meaſured, and the determination of the ſaid meaſurer in the premiſes ſhall be final between the parties.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Friday, *the twenty-eighth day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLVI.

An ACT *for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of* Northampton *and* Luzerne.

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS the opening of roads through the unſettled parts of this ſtate will greatly promote its ſettlement and population, and encreaſe its domeſtic and foreign commerce, its manufactures and agriculture; and divers perſons, citizens of this ſtate, have already ſubſcribed conſiderable ſums of money, and divers other perſons are diſpoſed to ſubſcribe further ſums for the purpoſe of opening roads from Pocona Point, in the county of Northampton, to a place known by the name of Mount Ararat, and thence to the New-York line, at the intended carrying place between the rivers Suſquehanna and Delaware, as alſo from the ſaid Mount Ararat to the moſt proper place at or near the mouth of the river Tioga; *And whereas* the ſaid roads will conduce to the immediate ſettlement of an extenſive tract of country, will promote both the export and Indian trade of this State, and by communication with other roads already begun, will render Pennſylvania the moſt eligible route for the emigrants from the northern and eaſtern parts of the United States; *And whereas* it is juſt and proper, that ſuch important efforts of private citizens of this Commonwealth, and which tend to increaſe the general wealth and power of the ſtate ſhould be patronized and aſſiſted by the Legiſlature thereof.

Certain new roads to be laid out, &c. in Northampton county.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the roads aforeſaid ſhall be laid out and opened as nearly as conveniently may be in the following directions, that is to ſay, one of the ſaid roads ſhall begin at or near to Pocona Point, in the county of Northampton, and ſhall run from thence, as ſhall appear moſt proper in the opinion of the commiſſioners to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, to or near to a place in the ſaid county, known by the name of Mount Ararat: another of the ſaid roads ſhall be run from and at the termination of the road aforeſaid at or near Mount Ararat, to ſuch a point in the line, dividing the State of New-York from this State, and lying between the rivers Suſquehanna and Delaware, as ſhall be deemed moſt proper by the ſaid commiſſioners; and the laſt of the ſaid three roads ſhall run from (or as near as may be from) the ſaid Mount Ararat to the moſt proper place in the opinion of the ſaid commiſſioners, at or near the mouth of the river Tioga, and each of the ſaid roads ſhall be laid out ſixty feet wide.

Width of ſaid roads 60 feet.

Five commiſſioners to be appointed for laying out ſaid roads, &c.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the Supreme Executive Council, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to appoint five commiſſioners for the purpoſes aforeſaid, and the ſaid commiſſioners or any two of them, are hereby authorized and directed to lay out and open, or cauſe to be laid out and opened the ſaid roads and highways throughout their ſeveral main courſes aforeſaid, in ſuch manner and in ſuch directions (having regard to the face and nature of the country) as they ſhall deem proper; and they ſhall proceed to perform the ſaid ſervices, at ſuch time and in ſuch manner as to them may appear moſt convenient and practicable, and the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall report their proceedings in the premiſes, together with an exact account of their expenditures to the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, who are hereby authorized and empowered to eſtabliſh the ſaid roads as reported, and the ſaid roads or highways, when they ſhall be ſo eſtabliſhed, ſhall be to all intents and purpoſes public ſtate highways; and the courſes and diſtances ſhall be entered in the Council Books, which entry ſhall be deemed a record thereof.

£. 1000 appropriated to the purpoſes of this act.

SECT. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the ſum of one thouſand pounds of money, not already appropriated, ſhall be, and the ſame is hereby appropriated to the purpoſes of this act; and the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council are hereby authorized to draw on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſame, in favor of the ſaid commiſſioners, for the purpoſe aforeſaid.

Council may require ſecurity.

SECT. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That each of the ſaid commiſſioners ſhall if required by the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council, give ſecurity before the iſſuing of any ſuch draft or order on the Treaſury, to and for the faithful diſcharge of his truſt.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Friday *the twenty eighth day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP.

C H A P. CXLVII.

An ACT *for the purpoſe of granting the ſum of one hundred pounds for the relief of* James M'Manas.

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I WHEREAS it hath been repreſented to this houſe by the petition of James M'Manas, and by other teſtimony it doth appear, that while employed in the ſervice of this ſtate, as a labourer in running the northern boundary line thereof, ſaid James M'Manas did receive ſuch wounds and bruiſes, by the falling of a tree in a ſtorm on ſaid James M'Manas, that he is thereby rendered totally incapable of ever ſupporting himſelf by labour: And it being conſiſtent with the principles of humanity and juſtice, that ſome proviſion be made for his preſent ſupport; therefore,

£.100 granted for ſupport of James M'Manas.

SECT. II. *Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the Preſident or Vice-Preſident in Council are hereby authorized and empowered to draw an order on the State Treaſurer in favor of James M'Manas, for the ſum of one hundred pounds, to be placed in the hands of the managers of the houſe of employment of this City, for his immediate ſupport.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Friday *the twenty-eighth Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

* * *

C H A P. CXLVIII.

An ACT *to exonerate* Joſeph Fry, *door keeper of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly, from any charge for rent, or other demands for or on account of his occupying of part of the weſtern wing of the State Houſe, and conſuming the herbage of the State Houſe yard.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS it has been repreſented to this houſe by Joſeph Fry, door keeper thereof, that an account has been exhibited againſt him, by the

Comptroller-General, for a ſum by way of rent, for his occupying of the part of the weſtern wing of the State Houſe, in which he and his family dwell, and for the herbage of the State Houſe yard, heretofore conſumed by cattle for his uſe. *And whereas* it appears to this Houſe, that ſuch charges have not been cuſtomary againſt former door keepers, and that the privileges for which the ſaid Joſeph Fry is conſidered by the Comptroller-General as liable to make compenſation, are but a reaſonable allowance for extra ſervices, and the care of the State Houſe, which the ſaid Joſeph Fry is obliged conſtantly to exerciſe, as well during the ſitting, as in the receſs of the Houſe.

Joſeph Fry exonerated.

SECT. II. *Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That all charges, claims and demands whatſoever, which are or may be made againſt the ſaid Joſeph Fry, his executors or adminiſtrators for or on account of the premiſes, are hereby extinguiſhed and releaſed to the ſaid Joſeph Fry, his executors and adminiſtrators. And the door keeper to the General Aſſembly, for the time being, is hereby permitted without rent or charge on account of the ſame, to occupy as heretofore the ſaid apartments.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Friday *the twenty-eighth day*
of March, *in the year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CXLIX.

An ACT to explain and amend an act, entitled, " An act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery."

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. FOR preventing many evils and abuſes ariſing from ill diſpoſed perſons availing themſelves of certain defects in the act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery, paſſed on the firſt day of March, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty.

SECT. II. *Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the exception contained in the tenth ſection of the aforeſaid act, relative to domeſtic ſlaves attending upon perſons paſſing through or ſojourning in this State, and not becoming reſident therein, ſhall not be deemed or taken to extend to the ſlaves of ſuch perſons as are inhabitants of or reſident in this State, or who ſhall come here with an intention to ſettle and reſide, but that all and every ſlave and ſlaves who ſhall be brought into this State, by perſons inhabiting or reſiding therein, or intending to inhabit or reſide therein, ſhall be immediately conſidered, deemed and taken to be free to all intents and purpoſes.

Exception in 10th ſection of former act explained.

Removal of any negro ſlave or ſervant out of this ſtate with intention of altering his place of reſidence, prohibited, except, &c.

Sect. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That no Negro or Mulatto ſlave or ſervant for term of years, (except as in the laſt exception of the tenth ſection of the ſaid act is excepted,) ſhall be removed out of this State, with the deſign and intention that the place of abode or reſidence of ſuch ſlave or ſervant ſhall be thereby altered or changed, or with the deſign and intention that ſuch ſlave or ſervant, if a female and pregnant, ſhall be detained and kept out of this State till her delivery of the child of which ſhe is or ſhall be pregnant, or with the deſign and intention that ſuch ſlave or ſervant ſhall be brought again into this State, after the expiration of ſix months from the time of ſuch ſlave or ſervant having been firſt brought into this State, without his or her conſent, if of full age, teſtified upon a private examination before two Juſtices of the Peace of the City or county in which he or ſhe ſhall reſide, or being under the age of twenty one years, without his or her conſent teſtified in manner aforeſaid, and alſo without the conſent of his or her parents, if any ſuch there be, to be teſtified in like manner aforeſaid, whereof the ſaid Juſtices or one of them ſhall make a record, and deliver to the ſaid ſlave or ſervant a copy thereof, containing the name, age, condition, and then place of abode of ſuch ſlave or ſervant, the reaſon of ſuch removal and the place to which he or ſhe is about to go. And if any perſon or perſons whatever ſhall ſell or diſpoſe of any ſuch ſlave or ſervant, to any perſon out of this State, or ſhall ſend or carry, or cauſe to be ſent or carried, any ſuch ſlave or ſervant out of this State for any of the purpoſes aforeſaid, whereby ſuch ſlave or ſervant would loſe thoſe benefits and privileges, which by the laws of this State are ſecured to him or her, and ſhall not have obtained all ſuch conſent as by this act is required, teſtified in the manner before mentioned, every ſuch perſon and perſons, his and their aiders and abettors, ſhall ſeverally forfeit and pay for every ſuch offence, the ſum of ſeventy five pounds, to be recovered in any Court of record by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, at the ſuit of any perſon who will ſue for the ſame, one moiety thereof when recovered, for the uſe of the plaintiff, the other moiety for the uſe of the poor of the city, townſhip or place from which ſuch ſlave or ſervant ſhall be taken and removed.

Forfeiture in in caſe of ſuch offence.

Sect. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That all perſons who now are or hereafter ſhall be poſ-

The names of children of a certain deſcription to be regiſtred by the clerks of the peace reſpectively.

of any child or children, born after the firſt day of March one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, who would by the ſaid act be liable to ſerve 'till the age of twenty eight years, ſhall on or before the firſt day of April one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty nine or within ſix months next after the birth of any ſuch child, deliver or cauſe to be delivered in writing, to the clerk of the peace of the county, or the clerk of the court of record of the city of Philadelphia, in which they ſhall reſpectively inhabit, the name, ſur name and occupation or profeſſion of ſuch poſſeſſor, and of the county, townſhip, diſtrict or ward in which they reſide, and alſo the age, (to the beſt of his or her knowledge) name and ſex of every ſuch child or children, under the pain and penalty of forfeiting and loſing all right and title to every ſuch child and children, and of him, her or them immediately becoming free, which ſaid return or account in writing, ſhall be verified by the oath or affirmation of the party, which the ſaid clerks are hereby reſpectively authoriſed and required to adminiſter, and the ſaid clerks ſhall make and preſerve records thereof, copies and extracts of which ſhall be good evidence in all courts of juſtice, when certified under their hands and ſeals of office. For which oath or affirmation and entry or extract, the ſaid clerks ſhall be reſpectively entitled to one ſhilling and ſix-pence and no more, to be paid by him or her, who ſhall ſo as aforeſaid make ſuch entry or demand the extract aforeſaid.

Clerks fees 1/6.

And whereas, it has been repreſented to this houſe, that veſſels have been fitted out and equipped in this port, for the iniquitous purpoſe of receiving and tranſporting the natives of Africa to places where they are held in bondage, and it is juſt and proper to diſcourage as far as is practicable ſuch proceedings in future.

Any veſſel equipped for the ſlave trade, forfeited to the commonwealth.

SECT. V. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall build, fit, equip, man or otherwiſe prepare any ſhip or veſſel, within any port of this State, or ſhall cauſe any ſhip or other veſſel to ſail from any port of this State for the purpoſe of carrying on a trade or traffic in ſlaves, to, from or between Europe, Aſia, Africa or America, or any places or countries whatever, or of tranſporting ſlaves to or from one port or place to another, in any part or parts of the world; ſuch ſhip or veſſel, her tackle, furniture, apparel and other appurtenances, ſhall be forfeited to the Commonwealth, and ſhall be liable to be ſeized and proſecuted by any officer of the cuſtoms or other perſon, by information *in rem* in the ſupreme court or the county court of common pleas for the county wherein ſuch ſeizure ſhall be made, whereupon ſuch proceedings ſhall be had, both unto and after judgment, as in and by the impoſt laws of this Commonwealth in caſes of ſeizures is directed. And moreover, all and every perſon and perſons ſo building, fitting out, manning, equipping, or otherwiſe preparing or ſending away any ſhip

Forfeiture of £. 1000. for building ſuch veſſel, &c.

ſhip or veſſel, knowing or intending that the ſame ſhall be employed in ſuch trade or buſineſs, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, or any wiſe aiding or abetting therein, ſhall ſeverally forfeit and pay the ſum of one thouſand pounds, one moiety thereof to the uſe of the Commonwealth, and the other moiety thereof to the uſe of him or her who will ſue for the ſame, by action of debt, bill, plaint or information.

And whereas the practice of ſeparating which is too often exerciſed by the maſters and miſtreſſes of negro and mulatto ſlaves or ſervants for term of years, in ſeparating huſbands and wives, and parents and children, requires to be checked, ſo far as the ſame may be done without prejudice to ſuch maſters or miſtreſſes.

Forfeiture for ſeparating huſband and wife, parent & child.

SECT. VI. *Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That if any owner or poſſeſſor of any negro or mulatto ſlave or ſlaves, or ſervant or ſervants for term of years, ſhall from and after the firſt day of June next ſeparate or remove, or cauſe to be ſeparated or removed, a huſband from his wife, a wife from her huſband, a child from his or her parent, or a parent from a child, of any or either of the deſcriptions aforeſaid, to a greater diſtance than ten miles, with the deſign and intention of changing the habitation or place of abode of ſuch huſband or wife, parent or child, unleſs ſuch child ſhall be above the age of four years, or unleſs the conſent of ſuch ſlave or ſervant for life or years ſhall have been obtained and teſtified in the manner herein before deſcribed, ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall ſeverally forfeit and pay the ſum of fifty pounds with coſts of ſuit for every ſuch offence, to be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint or information, in the ſupreme court, or in any court of common pleas, at the ſuit of any perſon who will ſue for the ſame, one moiety thereof when recovered, for the uſe of the plaintiff, the other moiety for the uſe of the poor of the city, townſhip or place, from which ſuch huſband or wife, parent or child ſhall have been taken and removed.

Penalty on removal of any negro, &c. with deſign of ſelling &c.

SECT. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall from and after the paſſing of this act, by force or violence take and carry or cauſe to be taken and carried, or ſhall by fraud ſeduce or cauſe to be ſeduced, any negro or mulatto, from any part or parts of this State, to any other place or places whatſoever, with a deſign and intention of ſelling and diſpoſing, or of cauſing to be ſold, or of keeping and detaining, or of cauſing ſo to be, as a ſlave or ſervant for term of years, every ſuch perſon and perſons, their aiders and abettors, ſhall on conviction thereof, in any court of quarter ſeſſions for any city or county within this Commonwealth, forfeit and pay the ſum of one hundred pounds to the overſeers of the poor of the city or townſhip, from which ſuch negro or mulatto ſhall have been taken or ſeduced as aforeſaid, and ſhall alſo be confined at hard labour for any time not leſs than ſix months, nor more than twelve months, and until the coſts of proſecution ſhall be paid.

This act to be publicly read &c. in term time.

Sect. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the juſtices of the courts of common pleas for the counties of this ſtate reſpectively, be, and they are hereby required and enjoined to cauſe this act to be publicly read at leaſt twice in each term, for the two terms next following the paſſing of this act.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia,
on Saturday *the twenty ninth*
Day of March, *in the year of*
our Lord one thouſand ſeven
hundred and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP CL.

An ACT *to lay a duty on* Foreign Barley *and* Malt *imported into this* State.

Preamble.

Sect. I. WHEREAS it appears to this Houſe, that conſiderable quantities of Foreign Malt, not the produce or manufacture of this or any other of the United States, have been imported into this State, whereby the price hath been ſo reduced as greatly to diſcourage the raiſing of Barley, although the ſoil and climate of this and the neighbouring States are well adapted to the production thereof. *And whereas* it is expedient to give all due encouragement and preference to the agriculture and manufactures of this ſtate.

Duty of 2/6 on each buſhel of barley, &c. after firſt of October next,

Sect. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That from and after the firſt day of October next, there ſhall be levied, collected and paid to the uſe of this Commonwealth, for every buſhel of Barley or Malt imported into this State, not of the growth and manufacture of this or ſome one of the United States, the ſum of two ſhillings and ſix pence; and the ſame duty ſhall be collected, ſecured and paid in like manner as the impoſt of two and a half per centum is or ſhall be collected, ſecured and paid, in and by an act, entitled " An act to encourage and protect the manufactures of this ſtate, by laying additional duties on the importation of certain manufactures which interfere with them," and ſhall be ſubject to like regulations, ſeizure and forfeiture, and entitled to like drawbacks upon re-exportation, and the collector of the port of Philadelphia ſhall be ſubject to like account and reſponſibility for the ſame.

Proviſo.

Provided always, That any Barley really and *bona fide* imported by or for any perſon or perſons, inhabitants of this State, for ſeed, ſhall not be ſubject to the duty hereby impoſed.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Saturday *the twenty-ninth Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

* * *

CHAP. CLI.

An ACT *to encourage and protect the Manufactures of this State.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS it is neceſſary for the encouragement of the arts and manufactures of this State, that meaſures ſhould be taken to prevent ill deſigning perſons from exporting the tools, utenſils and machines employed in the manufactures now eſtabliſhed or likely ſo to be, and from ſeducing artificers and manufacturers to leave this country.

Exportation of any machine &c. uſed in certain domeſtic manufactures, to any place out of the United States, prohibited.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That if any perſon or perſons ſhall on any pretence whatever export, load or put on board, or cauſe or procure to be exported, loaden or put on board, or ſhall pack or cauſe or procure to be packed, in order to be loaden or put on board of any ſhip or veſſel, bound to any place beyond the ſea, or not within the United States of America, or ſhall lade or cauſe or procure to be laden on board of any boat or other veſſel, or ſhall bring or cauſe to be brought to any quay, wharf or other place, in order to be ſo laden or put on board any ſuch ſhip or veſſel, or ſhall wilfully and maliciouſly deſtroy or render uſeleſs any machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement whatever, uſed in or proper for the woollen, cotton, linen, ſilk, iron or ſteel manufactures that now are or hereafter may be eſtabliſhed in this State, or any part or parts of ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement, or ſhall buy, purchaſe, collect or procure any ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement, or any part thereof for any of the purpoſes aforeſaid, he or they ſo offending, ſhall for every ſuch offence not only forfeit and loſe all ſuch machines, engines, tools, preſſes, utenſils and implements, or parts or parcels thereof, together with the packages and all other goods packed therewith, if any there be, but upon complaint made thereof, upon the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witneſs or witneſſes, it ſhall and may be lawful for any juſtice of the peace to iſſue his warrant to bring the perſon or perſons ſo complained of before him or any other juſtice, and if ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall not thereupon give ſuch an account of the uſe or purpoſe to which ſuch machines, engines, tools, preſſes, utenſils and implements, or parts or parcels thereof are intended to be appropriated, as ſhall be ſatisfactory to ſuch juſtice, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch juſtice to bind the perſon or perſons ſo charged, to appear at the next court of oyer and terminer or quarter ſeſſions of the peace, to be held for the city or county in which the offence ſhall be committed, with reaſonable ſureties for his or their appearance, or to commit ſuch perſon or perſons in default of giving ſuch ſecurity until the next court of oyer and terminer or quarter ſeſſions of the peace for the ſaid city or county; and in caſe ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall be convicted at ſuch court of oyer and terminer or quarter ſeſſions of the peace of any of the offences aforeſaid, he or they ſhall forfeit and pay for every ſuch offence a fine of three hundred and fifty pounds, and ſhall alſo ſuffer impriſonment in the common gaol of the city or county in which ſuch offence ſhall have been committed, for the ſpace of twelve months, without bail or mainprize, and until ſuch fine ſhall be paid, together with the coſts of proſecution.

Penalty thereon.

Such machines may be ſeized, and ſold, &c.

Sect. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That it ſhall and may be lawful for any perſon or perſons whatſoever to ſeize and ſecure all ſuch machines, engines, tools, preſſes, utenſils and implements, or parts or parcels thereof as ſhall be found or diſcovered to be laden and put on board, or intended to be laden and put on board of any ſhip, veſſel or boat, and intended to be exported contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, together with the packages and all other goods packed therewith, if any ſuch there be, and after condemnation thereof in due courſe of law, the ſame ſhall be publicly ſold to the beſt bidder by the ſheriff of the city or county in which the ſame ſhall be condemned, and one moiety of the produce ariſing by the ſale thereof, after deducting the charges of the condemnation and ſale, ſhall be to the uſe of the Commonwealth, and the other moiety to the perſon who ſhall ſeize and proſecute the ſame as aforeſaid.

Appropriation of forfeitures.

Sect. IV. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That if any captain or maſter of any ſhip, boat or veſſel, ſhall knowingly and deſignedly permit any ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement, or any part or parcel thereof to be put on board of his ſhip, boat or veſſel, with a deſign to export the ſame, contrary to the meaning and intent of this act, ſuch captain or maſter ſhall for every ſuch offence forfeit and pay a fine of three hundred and fifty pounds, and ſhall alſo ſuffer impriſonment in the common gaol of the city or county in which the ſaid offence ſhall be committed for the ſpace of twelve months, and until the ſaid fine together with the coſts of proſecution ſhall be paid.

Any captain of a veſſel conniving ſuch exportation.

Penalty thereon.

Sect. V. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid*, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall have in his or their cuſtody, power or poſſeſſion, any ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement, or any part or parcel thereof, with intention to export the ſame contrary to the intention of this act, or to deſtroy the ſame, or render it uſeleſs, upon complaint thereof, made by the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witneſs or witneſſes, it ſhall and may be lawful for any juſtice of the peace to iſſue his warrant to ſeize ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs utenſil and implement, or the parts or parcels thereof, and to bring the perſon or perſons ſo complained of before him or any other juſtice of the peace, and if ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall not give a ſatisfactory account of the uſe or purpoſes to which ſuch machines, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil and implement, or the parts or parcels thereof were intended to be applied, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch juſtice to cauſe ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement or the parts or parcels thereof to be detained, and to bind the perſon or perſons ſo charged, to appear at the next court of oyer and terminer or quarter ſeſſions of the peace for the county in which the offence ſhall have been committed, with reaſonable ſureties for his or their appearance, and in default of ſuch ſecurity, to commit ſuch perſon or perſons to the common gaol of the city or county, and in caſe any ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall be convicted at ſuch court of oyer and terminer or quarter ſeſſions of the peace of having in his or their cuſtody, power or poſſeſſion, any ſuch machine, engine, tool, preſs, utenſil or implement, or any part or parcel thereof, with ſuch intent as aforeſaid, the perſon or perſons convicted thereof, ſhall for every ſuch offence forfeit and loſe all ſuch machines, engines, tools, preſſes, utenſils and implements, and the parts and parcels thereof, to the uſe of the Commonwealth and of the proſecutor in manner aforeſaid, and ſhall alſo forfeit and pay a fine of three hundred and fifty pounds, and ſhall ſuffer impriſonment in the common gaol of the city or county wherein he or they ſhall be convicted for the ſpace of twelve months, without bail or mainprize, and until ſuch fine ſhall be paid, together with the coſts of proſecution.

Penalty on perſons convicted of an intention of exporting ſuch machines.

Sect.

Penalty on enticing perſons ſkilled in manufactures, to emigrate out of United States.

Sect. VI. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any perſon or perſons ſhall contract with, entice, perſuade, or endeavour to ſeduce or encourage any artificer or workman concerned, ſkilled or employed in, or who ſhall have worked at, or been employed in, or who is ſkilled in the woollens, cotton, linen, ſilk, iron or ſteel manufactures which now are or hereafter may be eſtabliſhed in this State, to go out of this State to parts beyond the ſea, or to any place not within the United States of America, and ſhall be duly convicted thereof, every ſuch perſon ſhall for every ſuch offence forfeit and pay a fine of one hundred pounds, and be committed to the common gaol aforeſaid, there to remain without bail or mainprize for the ſpace of four months, and until ſuch fine ſhall be paid, together with the coſts of proſecution.

Defendant in purſuance of this act, may plead the general iſſue, &c.

Sect. VII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any ſuit or action ſhall be commenced againſt any perſon or perſons for what he or they ſhall do in purſuance of this act, ſuch ſuit or action ſhall be commenced within ſix months next after the fact committed, and the perſon or perſons ſo ſued may plead the general iſſue, and give this act and the ſpecial matter in evidence, and if the plaintiff or proſecutor ſhall become non-ſuit, or ſuffer a diſcontinuance, or if a verdict ſhall be given againſt him, or judgment entered againſt him on demurrer, the defendant ſhall recover double coſts.

And recovertreble coſts.

Exception of wool cards, &c.

Sect. VIII. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That nothing in this act contained, ſhall be conſtrued to prevent or prohibit the exportation of wool and cotton cards, or of ſuch other tools or implements as are or may be uſually manufactured for ſale and exportation, within this State or any of the United States of America.

Limitation of duration of this act.

Sect. IX. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That this act ſhall be and continue in force for and during the term of two years, from and after the publication thereof, and from thence to the end of the then next ſeſſion of the General Aſſembly and no longer.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Saturday *the twenty-ninth day*
of March, *in the year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty eight.

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP.

C H A P. CLII.

An ACT *for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this State, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of Independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS in and by an act of the General Aſſembly of this Commonwealth paſſed the twenty eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſeven, entitled an act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this State by the ſpeedy collection of the arrearages due for unpatented lands which were located before the declaration of Independency: wherein it is enacted, that if any perſon entitled to lands within this State, and yet remaining unpatented, ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay or ſecure the purchaſe money or arrearages thereof with intereſt, every ſuch perſon ſo refuſing or neglecting, ſhall be barred and precluded from all the benefit intended by this act with reſpect to further time of payment and the mode of ſuch payment, and ſhall be forthwith proſecuted and proceeded againſt by the ſale of his ſaid lands according to law, as if this act had not been made.

And whereas the before recited act by its own limitation expires the tenth day of April next, within which time ſo limited the citizens cannot obtain a confirmation of their grants, it is therefore deemed expedient further to extend the ſame.

Limitation time extended to April 10th, 1789.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the time limited in the act above recited for paying or ſecuring to the State the payments for lands held or claimed by any citizen of this Commonwealth, by location or any other office right, obtained before the tenth day of December one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy ſix, and yet remaining unpatented, be, and hereby is extended to every matter and thing contained in the act aforeſaid, to the tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty nine.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That every perſon entitled to demand a patent for land in this State, on paying one fourth part of the amount of the purchaſe money now due with the intereſt thereon, in lawful money of this State, or in the bills of credit emitted by virtue of an act paſſed the ſeventh day of April, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, together with the whole of the office fees in current lawful money, ſhall at his option pay the reſidue of ſuch purchaſe money and intereſt, in lawful money or bills of credit aforeſaid, or in funded certificates of this State, on which certificates the intereſt ſhall be computed and allowed till the time of ſuch payment.

Payment to be made at option.

Proviſo.

Provided nevertheleſs, That ſuch payment or payments be made and compleated before the tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty nine.

And whereas, by an act paſſed the thirtieth day of December in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty ſix, entitled, " An act for giving during a limited time a right of pre-emption to the actual ſettlers within this State ;" and as ſaid act by its own limitation will expire the tenth day of April next, and as it is deemed juſt and reaſonable that the actual ſettlers within this State, who have not procured warrants for the lands by them occupied ſhould be allowed longer time for compleating the ſame.

Former act extended.

SECT. IV. *Be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That the act above recited, be, and hereby is extended in every matter and thing to the tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty nine, any thing in the ſaid act to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia, *on* Saturday, *the twenty ninth day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP. CLIII.

An ACT *to ſuſpend an act, entitled " An act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons called Connecticut Claimants the lands by them claimed within the county of Luzerne, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS by an act entitled, " An act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons called Connecticut Claimants the lands by them claimed within the county of Luzerne, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," it is among other things enacted, that certain commiſſioners therein named, or thereafter to be appointed, ſhould within a limited time meet together within the ſaid county, for the purpoſe of receiving and examining the claims of the ſaid claimants, and aſcertaining and confirming the ſame.

And whereas, when theſe commiſſioners had met in purſuance of the ſaid law, they were interrupted in their proceedings by the combinations threatenings and outrageous violence of certain lawleſs people in the ſaid county of Luzerne, and obliged to fly for the preſervation of their lives.

And whereas doubts have alſo ariſen concerning the conſtruction, true intent and meaning of ſaid law, for which and other cauſes it hath become very difficult to determine the ſame, and to adjuſt the compenſation to be made to thoſe perſons who will be diveſted of their property, by the operation of the ſaid law, if the ſame ſhould be carried into effect.

And whereas the time in which theſe commiſſioners were to receive claims, has expired, but their other powers ſtill remain, which if immediately executed, without further proviſions and regulations being previouſly made, will tend to embarraſſment and confuſion.

Clauſe ſuſpending a certain act.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That ſo much of the ſaid law as impowers the ſaid commiſſioners to aſcertain and confirm the claims of the ſaid people called Connecticut Claimants, and all and every part of the ſaid act, which gives any power and authority to the ſaid commiſſioners, be and the ſame is hereby ſuſpended, until the Legiſlature of this Commonwealth ſhall by a law for that purpoſe to be enacted make further proviſions and regulations in the premiſes, and ſhall direct and require the ſaid commiſſioners to proceed in the exerciſe of their ſaid powers.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, *on* Saturday *the twenty-ninth Day of* March, *in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight.*

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

CHAP.

CHAP CLIV.

An ACT *for the relief of* James Parker *an inſolvent debtor, confined in the Gaol of the City and County of Philadelphia.*

PREAMBLE.

SECT. I. WHEREAS James Parker, a priſoner confined for debt in the goal of the city and county of Philadelphia hath by his petition to this General Aſſembly repreſented, that by reaſon of his legal reſidence being without the limits of this State, he is not entitled to the benefit of the General laws of this Commonwealth, for relief of inſolvent debtors. *And whereas* this houſe by a Committee of their body have ſearched into the circumſtances of the caſe, and are willing to enable the petitioner to ſupport himſelf and family by his induſtry.

County court of common pleas for Philadelphia empowered to diſcharge James Parker.

SECT. II. *Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame,* That the county court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Philadelphia, be and they are hereby authoriſed and required upon the petition of the ſaid James Parker, to grant unto him relief in like manner and upon the ſame terms as by the laws of this Commonwealth now in force is provided for inſolvent debtors, who are confined in execution for debt to any one perſon, to the value of forty ſhillings and upwards, and the diſcharge thereupon to be made by the ſaid court of the priſoner aforeſaid, ſhall be as valid, and their proceedings as effectual to all intents, as any diſcharge or proceeding in the caſe of any inſolvent debtor, under the exiſting laws of this Commonwealth for the relief of inſolvent debtors, who ſeverally are indebted or owe to any one creditor, to the value of forty ſhillings and upwards, would or may be, although the ſaid James Parker may not have reſided within this State for the ſpace of two years next before his impriſonment or confinement aforeſaid.

In caſe of a creditor's non reſidence, ſervice of notice directed, &c.

SECT. III. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid,* That if any creditor or creditors of the ſaid James Parker doth or ſhall not reſide within this State at the time of ſuch proceedings before the ſaid court, that the ſervice of notice of the application to the ſaid court, or of any rule or order of the ſame court in the premiſes, on the known agent or attorney within this State of ſuch creditor or creditors, ſhall be equally good and effectual as if the ſame notice or notices was or were ſerved on the perſon or perſons of ſuch creditor or creditors; but if ſuch creditor or creditors ſhall have no ſuch agent or attorney within this State, the ſaid court on ſatisfactory proof, that due diligence hath been uſed to find out ſuch agent or attorney and that none can be found, ſhall and may notwithſtanding, proceed to diſcharge the ſaid James Parker in like manner as if ſuch notice had been actually given.

Signed by order of the Houſe,
THOMAS MIFFLIN, SPEAKER.

Enacted into a law at Philadelphia,
on Saturday *the twenty ninth*
Day of March, *in the year of*
our Lord one thouſand ſeven
hundred and eighty eight.
PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

C H A P. CLV.

An ACT *for veſting in* Thomas Gordon, *his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates forfeited to this Commonwealth by virtue of his attainder of* High Treaſon.

Pream

SECT. I. WHEREAS Thomas Gordon of the townſhip of Oxford and county of Philadelphia, was commanded by Proclamation of the Supreme Executive Council, bearing date the twenty ſecond day of June, which was in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy nine, to ſurrender himſelf to ſome one of the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, or of the Juſtices of the Peace of one of the counties within this State, on or before Thurſday the fifth day of Auguſt then next following, and alſo abide his legal trial, on pain that he the ſaid Thomas Gordon not rendering himſelf, and abiding his legal trial as aforeſaid, ſhould from and after the ſaid fifth day of Auguſt, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy nine, ſtand and be attainted of High Treaſon, and ſuffer ſuch pains and penalties and undergo all ſuch forfeitures as perſons attainted of High Treaſon ought to do.

And whereas the aforeſaid Thomas Gordon did not render himſelf, and abide his legal trial, as by ſaid Proclamation he was commanded to do, he thereby became attainted of High Treaſon, and his eſtate a forfeiture to the Commonwealth.

And whereas it appears from ſatisfactory evidence produced to this Houſe, that the ſaid Thomas Gordon, was a minor, and abſent from this Continent, at the time of his attainder having been placed on board a Britiſh veſſel in the port of Philadelphia, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy eight, by his mother (who was alſo his guardian) much againſt his own inclination, by reaſon whereof it became impoſſible for him to obey the aforeſaid Proclamation.

And whereas, conſiſtent with juſtice and equity, the ſaid Thomas Gordon ought not to ſuffer by means of the imprudence of a guardian, to whoſe authority the laws of the State had ſubjected him; therefore,

Forfeiture of Thomas Gordon's eſtate by reaſon of attainder, releaſed.

Sect. II. *Be it enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame*, That all and every the lands, tenements, or other eſtates, real and perſonal, whatſoever and whereſoever, which were or would have veſted in the aforeſaid Thomas Gordon, provided he had never became attainted of High Treaſon, and which by means of ſuch attainder as aforeſaid, have been or may or can be forfeited to, and veſted in this Commonwealth, ſhall be and they are hereby reſtored to, and veſted in the aforeſaid Thomas Gordon, his heris and aſſigns forever, in as full and effectual a manner, to all intents and purpoſes as if the ſaid attainder of High Treaſon had never happened; and the claim of this State to ſaid eſtates, acquired under and by virtue of ſuch attainder, is hereby fully releaſed, and forever relinquiſhed.

Signed by Order of the Houſe,

THOMAS MIFFLIN, Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Saturday *the twenty-ninth*
Day of March, *in the year of our*
Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred
and eighty eight.

PETER ZACHARY LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

TABLE

of the foregoing

ACTS.

CHAP. CXXXIII.

A Supplement to the act entitled, "An act to alter and amend an act," entitled, "An act to remedy the defects of the ſeveral acts of Aſſembly heretofore made for regulating the elections of Juſtices of the Peace throughout this State, and to eſtabliſh a permanent mode for holding ſuch elections, and to authorize the Juſtices of the Peace of the city of Philadelphia to hold the Courts of Record of the ſaid city, and to make further proviſion for the due election and return of Juſtices of the Peace elect." 404.

CHAP. CXXXIV.

An ACT authorizing the Supreme Executive Council, to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this State for the ſum of ſeventy nine pounds ten ſhillings, in favour of Alexander M'Dowell. 405.

CHAP. CXXXV.

An act for veſting the public ſtore-houſe and two lots of ground in the borough and county of Lancaſter, in the truſtees of Franklin College, for the uſe of the ſaid inſtitution. 406.

CHAP. CXXXVI.

An act to incorporate the Society for propagating the Goſpel among the Heathen, formed by Members of the Epiſcopal Church of the United Brethern or Unitas Fratrum. 407.

CHAP. CXXXVII.

An act to incorporate the firſt Preſbyterian Congregation of the Big Spring in New-Town townſhip, in Cumberland county. 410.

CHAP. CXXXVIII.

A Supplement to an act, entitled, "An act for raiſing by way of Lottery the ſum of forty two thouſand dollars, for improving the public roads leading from the city of Philadelphia to the weſtern parts of this State, and towards the improving the Navigation of the River Schuylkill." 414.

CHAP. CXXXIX.

An act for erecting a certain diſtrict of country, in which the Court Houſe in Cheſter county ſtands, into a County Town. 417.

CHAP. CXL.

An act to enable the Commiſſioners of the county of Cheſter, to ſell and convey a certain lot of land in the townſhip of Eaſt Caln, and county aforeſaid, for the uſe of the ſaid county. 118.

CHAP. CXLI.

An act to enable the owners and poſſeſſors of a certain tract of Marſh and Meadow Land therein deſcribed, ſituate in the counties of Philadelphia and Cheſter, to keep the banks, dams, ſluices, and floodgates in repair, and to raiſe a fund to defray the expence thereof. 119.

CHAP. CXLII.

An act to incorporate and endow an Academy or public School in the borough of Reading in the county of Berks. 416.

CHAP. CXLIII.

An additional Supplement to the Acts for the regulation of the Militia of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania. 432.

CHAP. CXLIV.

An act for deſtroying the Bills of Credit of this Commonwealth, emitted in purſuance of an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the firſt day of June, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty, entitled "An act for funding and redeeming the Bills of Credit of the United States of America, and for providing means to bring the preſent war to an happy concluſion." 434.

CHAP.

TABLE *to the foregoing* ACTS.

CHAP. CXLV.

A Supplement to the act, entitled, " An act for regulating the meaſurement of Corn and Salt imported into the port of Philadelphia. 436.

CHAP. CXLVI.

An act for opening and eſtabliſhing certain roads in the counties of Northampton and Luzerne. 437.

CHAP. CXLVII

An act for the purpoſe of granting the Sum of One Hundred Pounds for the preſent relief of James M'Manas. 439.

CHAP. CXLVIII.

An act to exonerate Joſeph Fry, door keeper of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the Freemen of Pennſylvania in General Aſſembly, from any charge for rent, or other demands for or on account of his occupying part of the weſtern wing of the State Houſe, and conſuming the herbage of the State Houſe yard. 439.

CHAP. CXLIX.

An act to explain and amend an act, entitled, " An act for the gradual abolition of ſlavery. 440.

CHAP. CLI.

An act to lay a duty on Foreign Barley and Malt imported into this State. 444.

CHAP. CL.

An act to encourage and protect the Manufactures of this State. 445.

CHAP. CLII.

An act for facilitating the redemption of the bills of credit emitted in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, and for redeeming part of the funded debt of this State, for extending the time for patenting lands which were located before the declaration of independency, and for giving a right of pre-emption to actual ſettlers, for procuring warrants for lands by them occupied. 449.

CHAP. CLIII.

An act to ſuſpend an act, entitled, " An act for aſcertaining and confirming to certain perſons called Connecticut Claimants, the Lands by them claimed within the county of Luzerne, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.' 450.

CHAP. CLIV.

An act for the relief of James Parker, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the Goal of the city and county of Philadelphia. 452.

CHAP. CLV.

An act for veſting in Thomas Gorden, his heirs and aſſigns, certain eſtates forfeited to this Commonwealth by virtue of his attainder of High Treaſon. 453.

* * *

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MINUTES

OF THE

THIRD SESSION

OF THE TWELFTH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH

OF

PENNSYLVANIA,

WHICH commenced at PHILADELPHIA, on *Tueſday*, the Second Day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight.

Tueſday, *September* 2, 1788. P. M.

MR. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until three o'clock to-morrow, P. M.

Wedneſday, *September* 3, 1788. P. M.

Mr. Speaker, with a number of members, met purſuant to adjournment; but not being a quorum,

Adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 4, 1788. A. M.

A quorum of Repreſentatives met.

A petition from *James Rumſey*, of *Berkley* county, in the ſtate of *Virginia*, was read, ſetting forth that he has been ſeveral years employed, with unremitted attention and at a great expence, in inventing and bringing to perfection ſundry machines and engines, namely, one for propelling boats on the water by the power of ſteam, which has been already accompliſhed in experiments on a boat of about ſix tons burthen; another machine, conſtructed on ſimilar principles, for raiſing water at a ſmall expence, to be applied to the working of mills of different kinds, as well as to various uſeful purpoſes in agriculture; a new invented boiler for generating ſteam; and alſo other machines, by means of which griſt and ſaw-mills may be ſo improved in their conſtruction, by a cheap and ſimple machine, as to require the application of much leſs water than is neceſſary in the common mode; and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his executors, adminiſtrators and aſſigns, for a term of years, the excluſive right of conſtructing, navigating and employing, within this ſtate, the ſeveral boats, engines and machines, by him invented and improved.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from about 300 inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*A further Act for quieting the diſturbances at* "Wyoming, *and for confirming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claim-"ants, *the lands by them claimed within the county of* Luzerne," as publiſhed for conſideration, may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Edward Stiles*, referring to his memorial preſented to a former Houſe of Aſſembly, *December* 2d, 1785, and their proceedings thereon, was read, praying relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Rufus Lawrence* and *Noah Murray*, a committee of the proprietors of *Shawanee Flat*, in the townſhip of *Plymouth*, and county of *Luzerne*, was read, ſetting forth, that the ſaid flat being ſubject to inundations by the riſing of the river *Suſquehanna*, the proprietors thereof cannot maintain fences to ſeparate their reſpective lands, but have been obliged to occupy the ſame in one general field; that it having been neceſſary to make and ſupport one general fence around the whole thereof, the proprietors have been in the practice of appointing committees to ſuperintend the common intereſt of the proprietors, in keeping up the general fence and preventing treſpaſſes in the ſaid general field; that there being no law authoriſing the proprietors to uſe compulſory means with delinquents, who refuſe or neglect to make and repair their proportions of the general fence, or to proſecute for treſpaſſes committed on the ſaid flat, or to regulate the times when the ſaid flat ſhall be depaſtured, and when horſes, cattle, ſheep and ſwine ſhall be excluded, whereby the proprietors annually ſuſtain much loſs and damage; and praying an act may be paſſed, to remedy the aforeſaid inconveniencies.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the Rector, Church-Wardens and Veſtrymen of the Proteſtant Epiſcopal church of St. *John*, at *York-town*, in the county of *York*, was read, ſetting forth, that they are conſiderably indebted to ſeveral perſons for erecting a ſchool-houſe, called the *York* academy, parſonage-houſe, and other improvements, and praying they may by law be enabled to mortgage the ſaid parſonage-houſe, and the two lots whereon the ſame is erected, in order to raiſe a ſum or ſums of money, not exceeding *five hundred pounds*, for the purpoſe of diſcharging the ſaid debts, and compleating the ſaid buildings.

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Thomas* and Mr. *M'Calmont* be a committee, to inform Council that the Houſe, being met, are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for allowing a further time to diſtribute the* "*donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth*," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

On motion made by Mr. *Piper*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lollar*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to alter and amend "an act, entituled "*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* "*lands within this ſtate*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Peters*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadel- "phia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſh- "ington *county from the payment of taxes*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 5, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property within the county of *Fayette*, for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from *Eleazer Oſwald* was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its encloſures, as follows, *viz*.

Philadelphia, September 5, 1788.

S I R,

I TAKE the liberty to incloſe to you, as Speaker of the General Aſſembly of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, my addreſs and memorial, relative to the late unjuſtifiable meaſures which have been taken with me, by three of the Judges of the Supreme Court; and moſt earneſtly intreat that you will cauſe the ſame to be preſented to the Honorable Houſe: they contain a ſtatement of facts of public notoriety, and information of the moſt ſerious nature againſt the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, *William Auguſtus Atlee* and *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquires, Juſtices of the ſaid Supreme Court. The lawleſs treatment I have experienced at their hands, in their official capacity, calls aloud for legiſlative redreſs.

I am,

With every ſentiment of reſpect,

S I R,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

ELEAZER OSWALD.

The Hon. THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſq;*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The Addreſs and Memorial of ELEAZER OSWALD, of the city of *Philadelphia,* Printer,

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your memorialiſt, on the firſt day of July, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-eight, at the city of *Philadelphia,* and within the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* publiſhed an addreſs in his paper, ſigned " *Eleazer Oſwald,*" a true copy whereof is hereunto annexed, and marked No. 1, relative to a writ iſſuing out of the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania,* in caſe, againſt your memorialiſt, at the ſuit of one *Andrew Brown:* upon which proceſs, bail of *one thouſand pounds* was demanded for your memorialiſt's appearance upon the return day of the ſaid proceſs, to wit, the ſecond day of *July* laſt aforeſaid.

That upon a citation to ſhew cauſe of bail in the action aforeſaid, and a ſolemn hearing before Judge *Bryan,* " no cauſe of action being ſhewn," your memorialiſt was diſmiſſed without bail, as is ſet forth in Judge *Bryan*'s order hereunto annexed, and marked No. 2, certified by the Sheriff of the city and county of *Philadelphia.*

That in the cloſe of the ſeſſion of the ſaid Supreme Court, to wit, the 12th day of *July,* 1788, an application was made by *William Lewis,* Eſquire, to the Juſtices of the ſame Supreme Court, for a rule to ſhew cauſe, on *Monday* morning following, at nine o'clock, why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt your memorialiſt, for a contempt of court, in publiſhing the ſaid addreſs, marked No. 1. A true copy of the rule is alſo annexed, marked No. 3.

That your memorialiſt had no notice of this rule to ſhew cauſe, till late on *Saturday* evening, when he returned from the country, where he was engaged all *Saturday* afternoon.

In this ſituation your memorialiſt applied to *Jonathan Dickenſon Serjeant,* Eſquire, as counſel, who appeared with him in open court on *Monday* morning, conformably to the ſaid rule. Your memorialiſt then diſcovered, that the court, the preceding *Saturday,* had founded the ſaid rule to ſhew cauſe on certain affidavits, which were taken *ex parte*—totally in his abſence—without his having any ſort of opportunity to croſs-examine the deponents. In vain did his counſel pray a poſtponement of the argument of that queſtion, although ſufficient ſecurity was offered for your memorialiſt's appearance at the next court, eſpecially as his counſel was juſt retained on the occaſion. In vain was it pleaded that your memorialiſt was pinched in point of time, as *Sunday* intervened—when the Prothonotary's office was ſhut, and inacceſſible to buſineſs of any ſort. The court ordered on the argument immediately, and determined, without heſitation, that your memorialiſt had committed a contempt, and the only mode aſſigned for acquital was, for your memorialiſt to ſubmit to the court in this ſummary courſe of proceedings, and to purge himſelf of the ſuppoſed offence in anſwering interrogatories upon his own oath.

Your memorialiſt was, however, permitted to file recognizance, himſelf in *two hundred pounds*, and Mr. *Blair M'Clenachan*, of this city, in *two hundred pounds* more, for his appearance the next morning.

Your memorialiſt appeared accordingly, and was required to anſwer interrogatories, which he poſitively refuſed; and thereupon the court proceeded to paſs ſentence on him, to ſuffer one month's impriſonment, pay a fine of *ten pounds* to the commonwealth, and the coſts of proſecution, as by the ſentence of ſaid court, marked No. 4, will more fully appear.

That the Honorable *Thomas M'Kean*, Eſquire, *William Auguſtus Atlee*, Eſquire, *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquire, and *George Bryan*, Eſquire, were upon the bench when the aforeſaid ſentence was paſſed; but *George Bryan*, Eſquire, did not concur with the court, as he was abſent in the courſe of the argument the preceding day, when the ſaid *Thomas M'Kean*, *William Auguſtus Atlee* and *Jacob Ruſh*, Eſquires, formed their determination on the ſubject.

That your memorialiſt was impriſoned, and ſuffered his impriſonment; and upon the thirteenth day of *Auguſt* laſt the Honorable the Supreme Executive Council remitted his fine, as appears by their order hereunto annexed, marked No. 5.

Finding his fine remitted, and that the coſts were diſcharged by a friend, your memorialiſt immediately demanded his liberty of the Gaoler: Being confined on the fifteenth of *July* for a month, and a month in law only conſiſting of twenty-eight days, his time of impriſonment expired the twelfth day of *Auguſt*. But Captain *Reynolds*, the Gaoler, declined granting the requeſt till he had conſulted the Chief Juſtice; after which he replied to your memorialiſt, that the Chief Juſtice forbid him to enlarge your memorialiſt till the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, as the record was wrong; and ſuch were the intentions and determination of the bench.—Shortly after the Chief Juſtice followed Captain *Reynolds* up to the gaol, and with his own hand delivered him a letter, of which the following is a true copy, and which is marked No. 6. in the appendage of teſtimony.

SIR,

WITH reſpect to the time of the impriſonment of Mr. *Oſwald*, it was intended to be for one kalendar month, that is, until the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, and ſo expreſſed when judgment was given; but as it is not ſo fully expreſſed in the entry on record, and the fine has been remitted by Council, I am of opinion you will be excuſable in diſcharging him immediately, and for my own part have no objection to it. *I am, SIR,*

Your obedient humble ſervant,
THOMAS M'KEAN.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 13th, 1788.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſquire, Sheriff, or the Keeper of the gaol of* Philadelphia *county.*

Although your memorialiſt doth not wiſh to excite any particular legiſlative attention in regard of the unwarrantable and arbitrary directions of the Chief Juſtice, to deprive him of his liberty a moment longer than the record ſpecified: Nor is he diſpoſed to diſcuſs the truth or falſity of the record itſelf in other reſpects—yet he humbly conceives it is unprecedented in modern law, and of very dangerous conſequence at all times in a free government, to allow a Judge to deviate from or impute errors in the records of a public officer, in whom the law places the moſt unlimited confidence, and to whoſe minutes the greateſt reſpect is due, inaſmuch as our liberties, properties, and our lives, depend on the ſuppoſed verity and ſtability of ſuch records.

Your memorialiſt aſpires to conſiderations of a higher nature, touching the meaſures which the Supreme Court adopted with him, in immuring him in priſon, without even the ſhadow of a trial, for an imaginary offence, not committed in view of the court, but at a diſtance,—before any proceſs was ever returned to the court by any known officer of the law—and when they were not in poſſeſſion of the cauſe—On this ſubject your memorialiſt ſolemnly appeals to your honorable body, who are the great conſtitutional judges of the grievances of the people, and have ample powers aſſigned to impeach every officer, and preſent him to the Preſident and Supreme Executive Council for trial and puniſhment.

In making this addreſs, your memorialiſt relies with the moſt pleaſing confidence upon your juſtice and candor.—Conſidering you as the chief guardians and ſupporters of our laws and privileges—and bound to proſecute and correct the miniſters of juſtice in every ſtation, who are found chargeable with maladminiſtration of the laws, and abuſing the powers delegated to them—your memorialiſt now applies to you as the national inqueſt of the commonwealth for redreſs; and calls upon you to declare, under the oaths you have taken, whether the Juſtices of the Supreme Court in the commitment of your memorialiſt (as above ſet forth in the ſtatement of facts) have not exerciſed extraordinary and illegal powers, ſubverſive of the conſtitution of the ſtate, and dangerous to the perſonal liberty and ſafety of every inhabitant of the country.

It is apprehended the freemen of *Pennſylvania* are governed by known laws, and not by the arbitrary will and determination of Judges, introducing ſummary, Star-Chamber proceedings, for no other purpoſe, apparently, than to demoliſh juries and blaſt our deareſt rights and privileges. Nor is there any pretenſion to a power of interpreting and expounding the law, that can juſtify or exempt Judges when they preſume to violate and trample upon it: For the judicial power, it has been well obeſerved,* " is founded on law, and " Judges have no power to derogate therefrom, nor to do wrong." Few men at firſt diſcover the danger of even trivial changes in fundamentals; and thoſe who are bent upon effecting them uſually act with ſo much artfulneſs, that they frequently execute the moſt execrable plans under fair and ſpecious pretences. Every attempt, therefore, of changing the law and uſage of the country, every deſign to deviate from and break our conſtitution, ought moſt carefully to be obſerved and timely checked and oppoſed. Nor is it only the intereſt of the people that ſuch fundamentals ſhould be duly guarded, for whoſe benefit and happineſs alone they were at firſt ſo carefully laid, but of the commonwealth and its rulers alſo, for whoſe ſake thoſe pretend

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* *See Lord* Somers's *Eſſay, page* 69.

to act, who would willingly ſacrifice every veſtige of freedom at the polluted ſhrine of deſpotiſm !

The legiſlative, executive and judicial officers of this commonwealth are under the religious ties of a ſolemn oath to maintain our conſtitution, and to do nothing directly or indirectly prejudicial or injurious * thereto.—The Judges of *England* are alſo under ſimilar obligations not to ſwerve from the laws of that country. And it is not to be forgotten, that in the early periods of the *Engliſh* hiſtory puniſhments have run high and been very ſevere againſt ſuch Judges as ſuffered the courſe of juſtice to be perverted, or the rights and liberties of the people to be invaded. Lord *Somers*, in his celebrated eſſay juſt alluded to (page 69, 24) tells us, " the Judges in ſuch caſes forfeited " their bodies, lands and goods, as in caſes of treaſon." Judge *Thorpe*, therefore, in *Edward* the Third's time, was hanged: In *Richard* the Second's time, eleven of the Judges were condemned to death; and although two were executed, all the others were for ever baniſhed, as unworthy to enjoy the benefit of that law which they had ſo perfidiouſly and baſely betrayed, and as examples to future Judges, and for ever to make their ears to tingle. " So " (continues this judicious writer) it belongeth to our Parliament, as being " one of the great ends as well as reaſons for which they ought to be fre- " quently called and aſſembled, to enquire into and puniſh the crimes and " oppreſſions of Judges and executive officers, as the great inqueſt of the " kingdom—And the neglect of this, in not making ſo frequent and ſignal " examples of parliamentary juſtice among the miniſterial diſpenſers of our " laws, as our anceſtors uſed to do, hath been the encouragement and cauſe " of ſo many uſurpations and invaſions of the laws, immunities, rights and " privileges of the nation."

By our conſtitution, every perſon has a right to the freedom of ſpeech, and of writing and publiſhing his ſentiments; and the freedom of the preſs is expreſly ſecured to every man. Your memorialiſt, therefore, held himſelf juſtifiable in publiſhing the addreſs alluded to, which ſpeaks for itſelf—and, your memorialiſt humbly conceives, conveys no manner of contempt to the court, not only as the court could not be legally poſſeſſed of the cauſe till the return day of the writ, but becauſe the publication did not touch on the merits of the cauſe commenced in court, nor obſtruct the courſe of the court in any reſpect in accepting the Sheriff's return, or in taking your memorialiſt's appearance, or proceeding in the uſual way; nor had the ſaid publication any improper tendency to influence a jury, as the cauſe could not be tried the firſt term to which it was returnable. The conſtituent, deſcriptive properties of a contempt do not, as your memorialiſt is well informed, by any means, form the features of the aforeſaid addreſs.

It is laid down in an Eſſay † upon Warrants, *&c.* in high eſtimation, ſuppoſed to be written by Lord *Camden*, " Libels, or defamatory expreſſions out " of court upon what hath paſſed in court, are no let or hindrance to the pro- " ceſs of the court, or to national juſtice; they do not break a ſpring, clog the " wheels, or ſtop the vibrations of the juridical machine; and therefore do " not neceſſarily require inſtantaneous remedy. Nothing but abſolute neceſ- " ſity can warrant commitment before trial by a jury, the right of every man " by *magna charta*. Actual breach of the peace, and actual contempt of law

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* *See Conſtitution, ſect.* 43.

† *Page* 192.

"proceedings, vindicate upon that principle ſuch reſtraint. No other of- "fences do, and leaſt of all thoſe committed by writers."

But if your memorialiſt had committed a contempt, by conſtruction of the Judges, it is no more than a criminal offence in the eye of the law, for which he hath a right to a trial by a jury of his country expreſly by our conſtitution, and is not under the power of attachment to be at the mercy and wild diſcretion of the court, ſubject to pain of perpetual impriſonment, to anſwer upon oath to interrogatories tending to make him accuſe himſelf. "That in all proſecutions for criminal offences, a man hath a right to "be heard by himſelf and his counſel, to demand the cauſe and nature "of his accuſation, to be confronted with the witneſſes, to call for evi- "dence in his favor, and a ſpeedy public trial, by an impartial jury of "the country, without the unanimous conſent of which jury he cannot "be found guilty: nor can he be compelled to give evidence againſt him- "ſelf: nor can any man be juſtly deprived of his liberty, except by the "laws of the land, or the judgment of his peers." Ninth ſection Bill of Rights.

That ſuch interrogatories have an unqueſtionable view to criminate a freeman is very evident; for, unleſs the anſwering them one way would convict him, the anſwering them the other way could not clear him: the affirmation muſt do one in the ſame proportion that the negative does the other. Thus out of the mouth of every culprit ariſes proof for his own condemnation, which is contrary to the fundamentals of law and natural juſtice, which protect every man from impeaching himſelf. Indeed this mode of proſecution originated from the odious Star-Chamber of old, which was aboliſhed for its oppreſſive practices, and ſeems a perfect alien to the genius of our own conſtitution, which is our greateſt bulwark and ſafeguard.

But this is not the place for argument or diſcuſſion, or your memorialiſt would proceed to make ſome comments on the caſe of *Bingley*, whom the court of *England* deprived of his liberty for a ſuppoſed conſtructive contempt, without allowing him a trial by jury, for refuſing to anſwer interrogatories. It is not the buſineſs of your memorialiſt to ſtep into the field of inveſtigation—This is reſerved for his ſuperiors in wiſdom and repreſentation; to whom he now cheerfully reſigns the conſideration of his grievances, which involves us in a circle of important conſequences, of which every ſucceſſive one ſeems to be the greateſt. Upon the event of your legiſlative deliberations it may depend—Whether the conſtitution of this ſtate doth not ſecure the citizens in the poſſeſſion of perſonal liberty, and not ſubject them for conſtructive offences to be attached at the will and pleaſure of a court; nor compel them to accuſe themſelves, under interrogatories, without the intervention of witneſſes and a jury. It will now, it is to be hoped, be decided—Whether the Judges did not infringe the conſtitution in direct terms, in the ſentence paſſed upon your memorialiſt; and whether, of courſe, they have made themſelves proper objects of impeachment; ſo that the judgment impoſed upon your memorialiſt may be reverſed for its injuſtice and illegality, and be for ever expunged and diſregarded as a precedent in *Pennſylvania*.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

Philadelphia, September 4, 1788.

APPEN-

APPENDAGE OF *TESTIMONY.*

NUMBER I.

TO THE *PUBLIC.*

WHEN violent attacks are made upon a perſon under pretext of private juſtice, and legal ſteps are taken on the occaſion, not perhaps to redreſs the ſuppoſed injury, but to feed and gratify partiſaning and temporiſing reſentments, it is not unwarantable in ſuch perſon to repreſent the real ſtatement of his caſe, and appeal to the world for their ſentiments and countenance. The diſintereſted and impartial part of mankind are concerned in theſe addreſſes and appeals; and it is hoped that they will always pay a becoming attention to the relations of truth and inſulted innocence. Indeed, while we are at liberty thus to lay before the public our own particular grievances, (and this liberty I truſt, at leaſt while I live, will never be denied a citizen of *Pennſylvania)* there is no fear but judicious, intelligent and diſpaſſionate characters will readily diſtinguiſh for themſelves, and ſeparate thoſe meaſures which are ſuggeſted by party, or the patrons and tools of party, from meaſures merely private and perſonal in themſelves, and which are commenced by one individual againſt another for the pure purpoſes of undiſſembled juſtice.

Upon theſe conſiderations, principally, I am now emboldened to treſpaſs on the public patience, and muſt ſolicit the indulgence of my friends and cuſtomers, while I preſent to their notice an account of the ſteps lately exerciſed with me; from which it will appear that my ſituation as a printer, and the rights of the preſs and of freemen, are fundamentally ſtruck at; and an earneſt endeavour is on the carpet to involve me in difficulties, to pleaſe the malicious diſpoſitions of old and permanent enemies.

On *Thurſday* evening laſt, the Sheriff's Bailiff waited on me with a *Capias* in caſe, at the ſuit of *Andrew Brown,* conductor of a young ladies academy in *Third-ſtreet,* upon which *one thouſand pounds* bail was demanded for my appearance at the next Supreme Court the ſecond day of *July.* This action, it is aſſerted, is brought to try "the truth or falſity" of certain charges contained in publications in my paper, which Mr. *Brown* has applied to himſelf, and is pleaſed to deem libellous and defamatory.

It is very true, that in the diſcuſſion of the momentous queſtion relative to the adoption of the Fœderal Government, many pieces have appeared in all the papers on the continent, and in the courſe of theſe publications ſome of the pieces, as is uſual in political ſquabbles, and in times of high political ferment, have not been altogether purged from a proportion of invective and abuſe. Mr. *Brown* having made himſelf conſpicuous in thoſe ſquabbles, naturally provoked the indignation of ſome writers in my paper. He could not preſerve his temper and moderation in the conflict, and deſirous of avenging himſelf of me, as the printer, he applies to Mr. *Lewis,* laſt *April,* to ſue me, unleſs I would conſent to ſurrender the authors of the pieces of which he complained. Mr. *Brown* then managed a paper himſelf, and a fœderal paper too—pretty demand! from one printer upon another, diſhonor himſelf and betray the ſecrets of the preſs.

I beg leave to lay before you Mr. *Lewis*'s letter to me——

21ſt *April*, 1788.

S I R,

Mr. *BROWN* wiſhes that the public ſhould be aſcertained of the truth or falſity of the ſeveral charges which have appeared againſt him in your paper, and knowing of no mode by which this can take place in ſo ſatisfactory a manner as by a trial at law, between him and the author or printer, he has applied to me to bring an action for this purpoſe.——I give you this information, in order that you may, if you think proper, give up the author or authors of the ſaid charges, or of any of them—If this is not done, it muſt be determined in a legal manner, whether there is, or is not, any difference between the liberty and licentiouſneſs of the preſs.

I am, S I R,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

W. LEWIS.

Mr. Oswald.

On the receipt of this letter, I requeſted my friend Colonel *Proctor* to wait on Mr. *Lewis,* with the following anſwer:

Wedneſday Morning, 23*d April,* 1788.

S I R,

I DID not receive your note of the 21ſt till laſt evening, reſpecting Mr. *Brown*'s application to you—But before I can decidedly give you an anſwer, I could wiſh the ſeveral charges to which you allude ſhould be particulariſed to me. I ſhall then have no objection to comply with your expectations in ſuch mode as ſhall be deemed moſt adviſeable.

I am, S I R,

Your humble ſervant,

E. OSWALD.

Mr. Lewis.

My wiſhes were granted by Mr. *Lewis.*

April 24*th,* 1788.

S I R,

THE publications alluded to in my letter of the 21ſt inſtant are contained in your paper of the 27th of *December*, 1786, under the ſignature of " *Fact* " *or Blunt*"—In that of the 26th of *January* laſt, under the ſignature of " *Peep*"—In that of the 31ſt of *January* laſt, under the ſignature of " *A Joe* " *to ſcribbling dunces and pſeudo patriots*"—In that of the 14th of *March* laſt, under the ſignature of " *No Tiffany,*" together with the note next following the laſt mentioned publication—and in that of the 22d of *March* laſt, under the ſignature of " *Obadiah Forceps.*"

I am, S I R,

Your humble ſervant,

Wm. LEWIS.

Col. Oswald.

I then made this concluſive reply.

Saturday, April 26, 1788.

S I R,

I HAVE reviewed the publications mentioned in your letter to me of the 24th inſtant, and I do not think myſelf bound to ſatisfy your wiſhes in reſigning up the names of the author or authors of thoſe pieces—as a printer I have a better regard for the freedom of the preſs: however, I have no objection to publiſh in my paper whatever Mr. *Brown* may offer in his own acquital; and I dare to ſay " the truth or falſity of the ſeveral charges," which he has taken to himſelf in this line, can be diſcuſſed with more propriety than in a legal procedure—But you, Sir, are now at liberty to adviſe him, and take ſuch meaſures as you pleaſe.

I am, S I R,

Your humble ſervant,

E. OSWALD.

Mr. LEWIS.

Mr. *Lewis* afterwards addreſſes Colonel *Procter* with his determination.

May 1ſt, 1788.

DEAR SIR,

I THINK I gave you reaſon to expect that I would inform you of Mr. *Brown*'s determination with reſpect to Colonel *Oſwald* before any other ſteps ſhould be taken, and I now inform you that his determination is to commence an action without loſs of time.

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

WM. LEWIS.

Colonel PROCTER.

But until the news had arrived laſt *Thurſday* that the ninth ſtate had acceded to the new fœderal government, I was not called upon; and Mr. *Page* in the afternoon of that day viſited me in due form of law with a writ. Had Mr. *Brown* purſued me in this line, " without loſs of time," agreeably to his Lawyer's letter, I ſhould not have ſuppoſed it extraordinary—But to arreſt me the moment the fœderal intelligence came to hand, indicated that the commencement of this ſuit was not ſo much the child of his own fancy, as it has been probably dictated to and urged on him by others, whoſe ſentiments upon the new conſtitution have not in every reſpect coincided with mine. In fact, it was my idea, in the firſt progreſs of the buſineſs, that Mr. *Brown* was merely the hand-maid of ſome of my enemies among the fœderaliſts; and in this claſs I muſt rank his great patron, Doctor *Ruſh* (whoſe brother is a Judge of the Supreme Court) I think Mr. *Brown*'s conduct has ſince confirmed the idea beyond a doubt.

Enemies I have had in the legal profeſſion, and it may perhaps add to the hopes of malignity, that this action is inſtituted in the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania*. However, if former prejudices ſhould be found to operate againſt me on the bench, it is with a jury of my country, properly elected and impannelled, a jury of freemen and independent citizens, I muſt reſt the ſuit. I have eſcaped the jaws of perſecution through this channel on certain memorable occaſions, and I hope I ſhall never be a ſufferer, let the blaſt of faction blow with all its furies!

Whatever riveted prejudice and ill-nature have alledged reſpecting my ſentiments in fœderal topics, I totally diſregard. Conſcious of my uprightneſs and impartiality as a printer, I feel contented in my mind. Living likewiſe under a free and happy government, and entitled to the full privileges of every other citizen, I have an equal, nay, an indubitable right to think and ſpeak, and write, if I chuſe, on public occurrences. Nor does any thing affect me more deeply, than that I fear the liberty of the preſs is invaded and endangered in conſequence of the ſuit which is inſtituted againſt me.

Was every printer to be brought before the higheſt court of original juriſdiction in the commonwealth, and under bail of *one thouſand pounds*—for pieces which he printed on public affairs, what man would write for the preſs, or what citizen would venture to tell and warn his fellow-citizens of any approaching danger to their rights and liberties, when he reduces the printer to this predicament, either to ſuffer himſelf, or diſcloſe the author?. Beſides, upon the ground that I am held reſponſible for being the printer, every perſon in the buſineſs I follow, here and in other places, is equally accountable for libelling.—Where would theſe actions terminate?

The doctrine of libels being a doctrine incompatible with law and liberty, and at once deſtructive of the privileges of a free country in the communication of our thoughts, has not hitherto gained any footing in *Pennſylvania*: and the vile meaſures formerly taken to lay me by the heels on this ſubject only brought down obloquy upon the conductors themſelves. I may well ſuppoſe the ſame love of liberty yet pervades my fellow-citizens, and that they will not allow the freedom of the preſs to be violated upon any refined pretence, which oppreſſive ingenuity or courtly ſtudy can invent.

Viewing the proſecution commenced againſt me with theſe ſentiments, I ſhall cheerfully reſign its fate to the regular courſe of juſtice. Upon trial of the cauſe, the public will decide for themſelves, whether Mr. *Brown*'s motives have been laudable and dignified; whether his conduct in declining an acquital of his character in the paper and ſuing me in the manner he did, was decent and conſiſtent; and in a word, whether he is not actuated by ſome of my inverate foes and opponents to lend his name in their ſervice, for the purpoſe of harraſſing and injuring me.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

NUMBER II.

30*th June*, 1788.

Andrew Brown
v.
Eleazer Oſwald.

Caſe for libel in Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania* on ſummons to ſhew cauſe of bail, required of the defendant in *one thouſand pounds*. Plaintiff ſhews no cauſe—defendant is therefore diſcharged, and plaintiff appeals to the court, and immediately gives notice to the defendant.

GEORGE BRYAN.

The above is a true copy from the original.
JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Sheriff.*

NUMBER III.

Reſpublica v. *Eleazer Oſwald.* } In the Supreme Court of *Pennſylvania.*

At a Supreme Court held at *Philadelphia*, for the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, the 12th day of *July*, *Anno Domini* 1788, Mr. *Lewis* produced an affidavit of *Andrew Brown*, plaintiff in a certain cauſe depending in this court, wherein the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* is defendant, ſtating divers papers and facts, which papers were produced and read, and thereupon, and upon *James Martin* and *Thomas Procter*, Eſquire, being ſworn and examined, he moves that a rule be granted that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt him for a contempt of this court, as ſtated in the ſaid affidavit.

Thereupon rule to ſhew cauſe on *Monday*, the 14th day of *July* inſtant, at nine o'clock in the forenoon.

From the Records,

EDW. BURD, *Prot. Sup. Ct.*

The above is a true copy from the original by
JOSEPH KIMBLE, *Aſſiſt. Shff.*

NUMBER IV.

Reſpublica v. *Eleazer Oſwald.* } In the Supreme Court of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania.*

Twelfth *July*, 1788, Mr. *Lewis* produced to the court an affidavit of *Andrew Brown*, plaintiff in a certain cauſe depending in this court, wherein the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* is defendant, ſtating divers papers and facts, which papers were produced and read, and thereupon, and upon *James Martin* and *Thomas Procter*, Eſquire, being ſworn and examined, he moves that a rule be granted that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe why an attachment ſhould not iſſue againſt him for a contempt of this court, as ſtated in the ſaid affidavit; whereupon rule that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* ſhew cauſe on *Monday*, the 14th day of *July* inſtant, accordingly.

Fourteenth day of *July*, 1788, *Eleazer Oſwald* appeared in open court, agreeably to the rule of the 12th day of *July* inſtant, and thereupon the ſaid affidavit and papers were read to him, among which was a piece under the ſignature of *Eleazer Oſwald*, contained in a public news-paper of the firſt day of *July* inſtant, ſtiled the *Independent Gazetteer*, or the *Chronicle* of *Freedom*, volume 7th, No. 796; the publication whereof, from the printing-office of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald*, was proved to the court on the oath of *James Martin*; whereupon the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* was demanded by the court, whether he would anſwer gratis interrogatories, to be exhibited to him, to exculpate himſelf from the contempt charged againſt him as aforeſaid, and proved upon him by the ſaid affidavits and papers; who thereupon by his counſel, Mr. *Sergeant*, prayed that he might have time to conſider of his anſwer thereto till to-morrow, and that he might give bail for that purpoſe, which prayer was accordingly granted him.

And it is ordered, That the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* enter into a recognizance, himſelf in *two hundred pounds*, and one good ſurety in *two hundred pounds*, or two good ſureties in *one hundred pounds* each, that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* perſonally be and appear at a Supreme Court to be held at *Philadelphia*, for the ſaid ſtate, to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to anſwer in the premiſes, and not depart, *&c.*

ELEAZER OSWALD tent in £ 200.
BLAIR M'CLENACHAN tent in £ 200.

On condition that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* perſonally be and appear at a Supreme Court, to be held at *Philadelphia*, to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, to anſwer, *&c.* and not to depart, *&c.*

Ten o'clock, A. M. 15th *July*, 1788, perſonally appeared *Eleazer Oſwald* in open court, and thereupon the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* was demanded, whether he would voluntarily anſwer to interrogatories, to be exhibited to him, to exculpate himſelf from the charge of a contempt, proved againſt him as aforeſaid, or enter into a recognizance for that purpoſe, who refuſed the ſame, declaring that he would not anſwer interrogatories: whereupon it is conſidered by the court here, that the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald*, for the contempt aforeſaid, be committed to the common gaol of *Philadelphia* county for the ſpace of one month, pay a fine of *ten pounds* to the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, diſcharge the coſts of proſecution, and in the mean time remain in the Sheriff's cuſtody.

From the Records, p.
GEO. DAVIS, *for*
EDW. BURD, *Prot. Sup. Ct. Penn.*

NUMBER V.

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, Auguſt* 13, 1788.

On motion,

Ordered, That the fine of *ten pounds*, which was adjudged by the laſt Supreme Court to be paid to the uſe of the commonwealth by Colonel *Eleazer Oſwald*, be remitted.

Extract from the Minutes,
JAMES TRIMBLE, *for*
CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſq; Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia.*

NUMBER VI.

SIR,

With reſpect to the time of the impriſonment of Mr. *Oſwald*, it was intended to be for one kalendar month, that is, until the fifteenth of *Auguſt*, and ſo expreſſed when judgment was given; but as it is not ſo fully expreſſed in the entry on record, and the fine has been remitted by Council, I am of opinion you will be excuſable in diſcharging him immediately, and for my own part have no objection to it.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient humble ſervant,

THOMAS M‘KEAN.

Philadelphia, Auguſt 13th, 1788.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, *Eſquire, Sheriff, or the Keeper of the Gaol of* Philadelphia *county.*

The above is a true Copy,

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT, Sheriff.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Benjamin Moore*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the county of *Dauphin*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Frances Budden*, widow and relict of *James Budden*, late of the city of *Philadelphia*, deceaſed, was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband died poſſeſſed of divers real eſtates within the ſaid city, and indebted to ſeveral perſons to a conſiderable amount; that the perſonal eſtate of the deceaſed being inſufficient to diſcharge the ſaid debts, ſhe applied to the Juſtices of the Orphans Court for ſaid city, *&c.* for an order to diſpoſe of the ſaid real eſtate, for the payment of the aforeſaid debts, and providing for the ſupport of herſelf and children; that the ſaid court conceived themſelves not authoriſed by the laws for the better ſettlement of inteſtate's eſtates to grant the order aforeſaid; therefore praying this Houſe to paſs a law, authoriſing her to diſpoſe of the ſaid real eſtate, for the purpoſes aforeſaid; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *M‘Lene* and Mr. *Lollar*, to report thereon.

A petition from *Agnes Downey* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband, Captain *John Downey*, was killed by the *Britiſh* in the year 1778, and ſtating the diſtreſſed ſituation of herſelf and helpleſs family; and praying this Houſe to grant her relief.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from 92 inhabitants of the county of *Northumberland*, reſiding within the fourth election diſtrict of the ſaid county, was read, praying for a diviſion of the ſaid diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill publiſhed for conſideration, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and praying they may be heard by their counſel, either at the bar of this Houſe, or before a committee thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon, *Reſolved,* That this Houſe will on *Thurſday* next reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, to hear counſel on the ſubject of the ſaid memorial.

The petition of *Rufus Lawrence* and *Noah Murray,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Kremer,* Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Schott,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed yeſterday to inform Council, that the Houſe being met are ready to receive any buſineſs they may have to lay before them, reported that they had performed that ſervice, and received for anſwer, that Council were preparing buſineſs, which they expected to lay before the Houſe to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 6, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A Meſſage from the Preſident and the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

GENTLEMEN,

THE daring inſult offered to the laws of the ſtate, during the receſs of your Honorable Houſe, by the inſurgents of *Wyoming,* in carrying off the perſon of *Timothy Pickering,* Eſquire, Prothonotary of the county, called for the immediate interpoſition of government, more eſpecially as there was no knowing to what further lengths their outrages might be carried, unleſs ſpeedily checked.—For this purpoſe we iſſued proclamations, offering rewards for apprehending thoſe offenders, whoſe names were known, and made application to the governments of *New-Jerſey* and *New-York* to co-operate in our meaſures, and received the moſt friendly aſſurances of their ſupport. We alſo obtained permiſſion from the Honorable Congreſs, that the troops of the Union, then on their march to the weſtward, ſhould proceed (if found neceſſary) to *Wyoming.* Theſe active meaſures, ſupported by the friends of government within the county, have been attended with ſucceſs: Col. *Pickering* was releaſed, a number of the rioters have been taken into cuſtody, and apparent peace reſtored to the county. Sundry papers relating to the above tranſactions are encloſed in No. 1.

In order to carry into effect your reſolution of the 27th day of *March* laſt, reſpecting the ſeventeen enumerated townſhips, we appointed Colonel *Stephen Balliot* and Major *William Armſtrong* commiſſioners, to aſcertain the quantity and quality of the particular tracts of land contained in the ſaid townſhips. To their report, marked No. 2, we beg leave to refer you.

In compliance with your reſolution of the 29th day of *February* laſt, we have negociated, by means of our Delegates in Congreſs, with the United States, for the tract of country, which, on actual ſurvey, may appear to be their property on *Lake Erie,* adjoining the northern boundary of this ſtate. The report, with the documents on which the ſame is founded, are contained in the bundle No. 3.

The lowering the terms of lands in the new purchaſe, and freeing the ſurplus of the donation lands from the appropriations by which they are bound, are matters in our opinion worthy the attention of the Houſe; by theſe means not only an old fund would be rendered productive, but a new one will be opened.

Impoſitions are practiſed by perſons ſelling adulterated plate. An office erected for the purpoſe of aſſaying and ſtamping all plate offered for ſale would tend to prevent fraud, and give ſecurity to the purchaſer of that article.

The diſabled penſioners have lately been paid out of the unappropriated funds of the ſtate. It appears that theſe funds are inſufficient to diſcharge the demands made on them, and if the penſions are continued to be paid, ſome other proviſion is neceſſary.

The magazine for ſtoring of gun-powder in this city is not only improperly ſituated, with reſpect to the town, but too ſmall to contain the quantities now imported and manufactured in the neighbourhood. We therefore think a reviſal and alteration of the law paſſed the 28th day of *March*, 1787, reſpecting gun-powder, is now highly neceſſary.

The depreciation of our paper money calls for the attention of the legiſlature. We wiſh for a conference with a committee of your Honorable Houſe on this important ſubject.

We have called upon the reſpective county lieutenants for returns of perſons ſubject to the performance of militia duties, and of thoſe who have actually attended on muſter-days, agreeably to your reſolution of the 29th day of *March* laſt; theſe returns ſhall be laid before the General Aſſembly as ſoon as they come to hand.

We alſo herewith communicate a reſolution of Congreſs, dated *July* 11th, 1788, reſpecting penſioners—An extract of a letter from General *Harmer*, dated *June* 30th, 1788—Copies of the ratification of the fœderal conſtitution by the ſtates of *Virginia*, *South-Carolina* and *New-York*, with the amendments propoſed by *Virginia* and *New-York*—Alſo a letter from the Preſident of the Convention of *North-Carolina*, incloſing the proceedings of the ſaid Convention—A letter from *Thomas Paine*, Eſquire, dated at *Paris*, *May* 4th, 1788, incloſing the opinion of the Academy of Sciences at *Paris*, on the principles and conſtruction of the model for a bridge over the *Schuylkill*—A letter from General *St. Clair* of *July* 24th, and a reſolution of Congreſs of *Auguſt* 12th, 1788, relative to the holding in readineſs the militia on the frontiers, to act in conjunction with the fœderal troops in defending the weſtern country againſt *Indian* hoſtilities—Two letters from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, Secretary of Congreſs, dated the 20th and 25th days of *Auguſt*, 1788, the one incloſing a copy of the journal of Congreſs, from the commencement of the fœderal year to the 20th of *Auguſt*, 1788, and the other incloſing a requiſition of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the year 1788; and a memorial from Captain *John Armſtrong*.

B. FRANKLIN.

COUNCIL-CHAMBER,
Philadelphia, September 6th, 1788.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid meſſage and papers were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Robinſon*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to arrange the ſubject matters, and report thereon.

A petition from *John Fitch* was read, remonſtrating againſt the petition of *James Rumſey*, read *September* 4th inſtant, and praying no act may be paſſed diveſting him of the excluſive right of conſtructing, making and vending ſteam-boats within this ſtate.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Henry Voight*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, ſetting forth that he hath invented and conſtructed a pipe boiler for generating of ſteam, and praying an act may be paſſed, granting unto him, his heirs and aſſigns, the excluſive right of making and vending the ſame within this commonwealth.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the religious ſociety of *German* Roman Catholics of the church called the *Holy Trinity*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be incorporated.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, *September* 8, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſtating divers inconveniencies they labour under by the licentious conduct of perſons uſing fire-arms within their incloſures, or in the public high-way within the vicinity of the ſaid city, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the freemen of the third election diſtrict in the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying they may be allowed to hold their general elections at the houſe of *Andrew Bilmeyer*, in the townſhip of *Buffalœ*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Penns* and *Beaver*, in the county of *Northumberland* was read, praying the ſaid townſhips may be erected into a diſtrict, for the purpoſe of holding their general elections.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Franklin*, late of the county of *Luzerne*, and now confined on a charge of treaſon in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be liberated on bail, or otherwiſe, as to the Houſe may ſeem expedient.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *James Rumſey*, read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Chapman*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe*, to report thereon.

The petitions of *John Fitch* and *Henry Voight*, read *September* 6th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 6th, to arrange and report on the meſſage from Council, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Irwine,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage and papers relative to the purchaſe of lands on *Lake Erie.*

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Piper* and Mr. *Maclay,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage which relates to reducing the price of the public lands, and freeing the ſurplus of the donation lands from its appropriation.

Ordered, That Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* be a committee on that part of the meſſage relative to an aſſay of plate.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, be a committee on that part of the meſſage and papers reſpecting the diſturbances at *Wyoming.*

Ordered, That ſuch part of the meſſage as relates to penſions, and the act of Congreſs of the 11th *June* laſt, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the city members be a committee on that part of the meſſage which reſpects the gun-powder magazine.

Ordered, That Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, be a committee to confer with the Supreme Executive Council on the ſubject of the paper currency, and report thereon.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Findley*, be a committee on the letters from General *St. Clair* and Colonel *Harmer*, and the act of Congreſs reſpecting the weſtern country, and to report thereon.

Ordered, That the requiſitions of Congreſs for the year 1788 be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the petition of Captain *John Armſtrong* be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *M'Calmont* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from the Secretary of Congreſs of the 20th *Auguſt*, with the journals of Congreſs, and the letter from Mr. *Paine*, lie on the table.

Ordered, That the ſeveral letters from *South-Carolina*, *Virginia*, *New-York* and *North-Carolina*, be entered on the minutes of this Houſe, as follows, *viz.*

(CIRCULAR.)

Charleſton, 24th May, 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of informing your Excellency, that the Convention of the people of *South-Carolina* this day ratified the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States, by the Fœderal Convention.

With due conſideration and reſpect, I remain,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient humble ſervant,

THOMAS PINCKNEY.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

Ayes 149—Nays 73.

Virginia, June 28th, 1788.

S I R,

BY direction of a Convention of this ſtate, I have the honor of tranſmitting to your Excellency copies of their ratification of the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States, and of amendments which they wiſh to take place therein.

With ſentiments of great reſpect,
I am, S I R,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,
EDMD. PENDLETON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

In CONVENTION, *at Poughkeepſie, State of New-York, July 26th,* 1788.

(CIRCULAR.)

S I R,

WE, the members of the Convention of this ſtate, have deliberately and maturely conſidered the Conſtitution propoſed for the United States. Several articles in it appear ſo exceptionable to a majority of us, that nothing but the fulleſt confidence of obtaining a reviſion of them by a General Convention, and an invincible reluctance to ſeparating from our ſiſter ſtates, could have prevailed upon a ſufficient number to ratify it, without ſtipulating for previous amendments. We all unite in opinion, that ſuch a reviſion will be neceſſary to recommend it to the approbation and ſupport of a numerous body of our conſtituents. We obſerve that amendments have been propoſed and are anxiouſly deſired by ſeveral of the ſtates, as well as by this; and we think it of great importance that effectual meaſures be immediately taken for calling a Convention, to meet at a period not far remote; for we are convinced that the apprehenſions and diſcontents which thoſe articles occaſion cannot be removed or allayed, unleſs an act to provide for it be among the firſt that ſhall be paſſed by the New Congreſs.—As it is eſſential that an application for the purpoſe ſhould be made to them by two thirds of the ſtates, we earneſtly exhort and requeſt the legiſlature of your commonwealth to take the earlieſt opportunity of making it. We are perſuaded that a ſimilar one will be made by our legiſlature, at their next ſeſſion; and we ardently wiſh and deſire, that the other ſtates may concur in adopting and promoting the meaſure. It cannot be neceſſary to obſerve that no government, however conſtructed, can operate well, unleſs it poſſeſſes the confidence and good will of the great body of the people; and as we deſire nothing more than that the amendments propoſed by this or other ſtates be ſubmitted to the conſideration and deciſion of a General Convention, we flatter ourſelves that motives of mutual affection and conciliation will conſpire with the obvious dictates of ſound policy, to induce even ſuch of the ſtates as may be content with every article in the Conſtitution to gratify the reaſonable deſires of that numerous claſs of *American* citizens, who are anxious to obtain amendments of ſome of them.

Our amendments will manifeſt that none of them originated in local views, as they are ſuch as, if acceded to, muſt equally affect every ſtate in the union.

Our attachment to our ſiſter ſtates, and the confidence we repoſe in them, cannot be more forcibly demonſtrated, than by acceding to a government which many of us think very imperfect, and devolving the power of determining whether that government ſhall be rendered perpetual in its preſent form, or altered agreeable to our wiſhes, on a minority of the ſtates with whom we unite.

We requeſt the favor of your Excellency to lay this letter before the legiſlature of your commonwealth; and we are perſuaded that your regard for our national harmony and good government will induce you to promote a meaſure, which we are unanimous in thinking very conducive to thoſe intereſting objects.

We have the honor to be, with the higheſt reſpect,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervants.

By the unanimous order of the Convention,

GEO. CLINTON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the GOVERNOR
of Pennſylvania.

Edenton, 12th Auguſt, 1788.

SIR,

BY order of the Convention of the people of *North-Carolina*, aſſembled to deliberate on the adoption of the Conſtitution propoſed for the Government of the United States of *America*, I ſend you the incloſed extract from the journal of their proceedings.

I have the honor to be, with great conſideration and reſpect,

SIR,

Your Excellency's moſt obedient ſervant,

SAM. JOHNSTON, *Preſident.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of the ſtate of Pennſylvania.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 9, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its encloſures, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September 8th,* 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of the board I do myſelf the honor to tranſmit you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, an act of Congreſs paſſed the 4th inſtant, by which the United States relinquiſh and transfer to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* all their right, title and claim, to the government and juriſdiction of the tract of land on *Lake Erie*, which the ſtate has agreed to purchaſe of the United States.

By accounts from *Pittſburg*, a pacific diſpoſition is manifeſted on the part of the *Indians*, and there is now reaſon to expect a large meeting of the northern and weſtern tribes at *Muſkingum*, to hold a treaty with the continental commiſſioners. This favorable opportunity ought not, in the opinion of Council, to be miſſed; for although the quantity of land in the triangle purchaſed from the Board of Treaſury cannot be aſcertained with preciſion before the neceſſary lines are run, agreeably to the act of Congreſs of the 6th day of *June* laſt, yet, as a great part of the expence attending treaties with *Indians* is incurred by collecting and furniſhing them with proviſions, charges which in this inſtance may be avoided—Council therefore earneſtly recommend the appointing commiſſioners on the part of this ſtate to attend the enſuing treaty, for purchaſing from the *Indians*, who may appear to have juſt claims to the ſame, the whole of the triangle aforeſaid, as nearly as the bounds of the ſame may be aſcertained by the beſt information which can be now obtained.

I have the honor to be,

With great reſpect,

Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,

P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

By the UNITED STATES *in* CONGRESS *aſſembled, June 6th,* 1788.

ON the report of a committee, conſiſting of Mr. *Clark*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *Armſtrong*, Mr. *Wadſworth* and Mr. *Brown*, to whom was referred a motion of Mr. *Irvine*,

Reſolved, That the Geographer of the United States be, and he is hereby directed to aſcertain by himſelf, or by a deputy duly appointed for the purpoſe, the boundary line between the United States and the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts*, agreeably to the deeds of ceſſion of the ſaid ſtates.

That the ſaid Geographer inform the Executives of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts* of the time of running the ſaid line, in order that they or either of them may, if they think proper, have perſons attending at the time.

That the ſaid Geographer, or his deputy, having run the meridian between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and marked, and noted down in his field book, proper land marks for perpetuating the ſame, ſhall proceed to make a ſurvey of the land lying weſt of the ſaid line, between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, ſo as to aſcertain the quantity thereof, and make return of ſuch ſurvey to the Board of Treaſury, who are hereby authoriſed and empowered, at any time before or after ſuch ſurvey, to ſell the ſaid tract, in whole, at private ſale, for a price not leſs than three fourths of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities drawing intereſt.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, June 14th*, 1788.

COUNCIL reſumed the conſideration of the letter from the delegates of this ſtate, and the act of Congreſs incloſed therein, which were received on the twelfth inſtant, reſpecting a ſurvey to fix the boundary and determine the quantity of land within the territory adjoining the northern boundary of this ſtate, belonging to the United States, and authorizing the Board of Treaſury of the United States to ſell the ſaid land, in whole, at private ſale, for a price not leſs than three fourths of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities drawing intereſt.

Reſolved, That the Preſident inform our delegates in Congreſs, that they are authoriſed and empowered by this board to negotiate and contract with Congreſs, in behalf of this ſtate, for the purchaſe of the lands before deſcribed at the rate of three quarters of a dollar per acre in ſpecie, or public ſecurities bearing intereſt.

Extract from the minutes,

JAMES TRIMBLE, *for*

CHARLES BIDDLE, *Secretary.*

WE, the delegates of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* in compliance with inſtructions, and in virtue of powers, received from the ſaid ſtate, do hereby offer to contract (in behalf of the ſaid ſtate) with the Honorable Board of Treaſury, for a tract of land belonging to the United States, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts,* at the rate of three fourths of a dollar per acre, payable in gold or ſilver, or in public ſecurities of the United States bearing intereſt, when the quantity is aſcertained by actual ſurvey, in the manner preſcribed by a reſolution of Congreſs of the 7th of *June,* 1788.

(Signed) WM. BINGHAM,
JAMES R. REID.

New-York, July 7, 1788.

(True Copy)
SAMUEL OSGOOD,
ARTHUR LEE.

Board of Treaſury, Auguſt 28, 1788.

GENTLEMEN,

THE United States in Congreſs having, by their act of the 20th inſtant, determined that no reſervations are in their judgment neceſſary to be made on account of the United States in a certain tract of land, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania,* and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts*—we beg leave to acquaint you that we accept your propoſal for the purchaſe of the ſaid tract, in behalf of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, as expreſſed in your letter of the 7th *July*, 1788.

We have the honor to be, with great reſpect,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient humble ſervants,

SAMUEL OSGOOD,
ARTHUR LEE.

To the Honorable the DELEGATES *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

By the UNITED STATES *in* CONGRESS *aſſembled, September 4th,* 1788.

ON a report of a committee, conſiſting of Mr. *Dane*, Mr. *Sedgwick* and Mr. *Madiſon*, to whom was referred a motion of the delegates of *Pennſylvania*.

Whereas it appears that the Board of Treaſury, in conformity to the act of Congreſs of the 6th of *June* laſt, have entered into a contract with the delegates of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, in behalf of the ſaid ſtate, for the tract of land, bounded eaſt, agreeably to the ceſſion of weſtern territory, by the ſtates of *Maſſachuſetts* and *New-York*; ſouth by *Pennſylvania*; north and weſt by *Lake Erie*: And whereas the ſaid tract is entirely ſeparated from the other lands of the weſtern territory over which the juriſdiction of the United States extends: And whereas, under theſe circumſtances, it will be expedient for the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* to hold and exerciſe juriſdiction over the tract aforeſaid: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the United States do hereby relinquiſh and transfer all their right, title and claim to the government and juriſdiction of the ſaid tract of land to the ſtate of *Pennſylvania* for ever; and it is hereby declared and made known, that the laws and public acts of the ſaid ſtate ſhall extend over every part of the ſame tract, to all intents and purpoſes, as if the ſame had been originally within the charter bounds of the ſaid ſtate; provided that the inhabitants of the ſaid tract ſhall be maintained in all the rights and privileges which other citizens of the ſaid ſtate of *Pennſylvania* are now or may hereafter be conſtitutionally entitled to enjoy.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*.

A REPORT *of the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *to the* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the State of* Pennſylvania.

THAT they have negociated with Congreſs for purchaſing the tract of land, contained in the interval betwixt a meridian line run between *Lake Erie* and the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, and the boundaries of the ſtates of *New-York* and *Maſſachuſetts*, at the rate of three quarters of a dollar per acre, payable in gold or ſilver, or in public ſecurities of the United States bearing intereſt, when the quantity is aſcertained by actual ſurvey, in the manner preſcribed by a reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th of laſt *June*, as more fully appears by the accompanying inſtructions to our delegates in Congreſs, of the

14th day of *June* laſt—their propoſals to the Board of Treaſury of the 7th of *July*—and the ſaid Board's final acceptance of the terms on the 28th day of *Auguſt* laſt.

An eſtimate of other probable expenditures that may be incurred by the purchaſe is herewith preſented, amounting to the ſum of *nine hundred and fifty* pounds.

To conclude the buſineſs with the United States, it now remains for the General Aſſembly to make the requiſite appropriation of public ſecurities, and to aſſign funds whence the other expences may be drawn.

1788, *September*.

An ESTIMATE *of the expence that may probably attend the buſineſs of the* Lake Erie *lands, if it ſhould be directed to purchaſe the claim of the* Six *Nations of* Indians.

	£.	s.	d.
SUPPOSED price in various ſuitable articles, amounting to one thouſand dollars, - - -	375	0	0
Proviſions of different kinds, - - -	100	0	0
Charges of waggonage, boat hire, &c. - -	150	0	0
Pay of commiſſioners, hire of interpreters, runners, &c.	250	0	0
Preſents to the great men, - - -	75	0	0
	£ 950	0	0

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Findley,* Mr. *Irwin* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report an eſtimate of the expence which may be neceſſarily incurred in attending the treaty alluded to in the ſaid letter.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying an act may be paſſed, appointing Commiſſioners to run the line dividing the ſaid county from the counties of *Bedford* and *Northumberland*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Piper,* Mr. *Saylor,* Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Daviſon,* to report thereon.

A petition from the commiſſioners of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, ſetting forth, that by the act erecting the ſaid county the proportion of taxes for the payment of the public debts has not been aſcertained, and praying this Houſe may, by a ſupplement to the ſaid law, eſtabliſh and declare the ſum to be aſſeſſed and collected in and for the ſaid county; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the laſt named committee, to report thereon.

A petition from *Robert Leſlie* was read, referring to his petition read *March* 8th laſt, and praying the ſame may be taken into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Alliſon* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Sarah Caldwell,* in behalf of herſelf and children, was read, ſetting forth, that on the 18th day of *January* laſt ſhe loſt certificates of this ſtate, amounting to *two thouſand five hundred and ſeventeen pounds twelve ſhillings and ſeven-pence,* the property of her ſaid children; and praying an act may be paſſed to enable the Treaſurer to pay the intereſt due on the ſaid certificates, or the Comptroller-General to iſſue new ones in lieu of thoſe which have been loſt.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Potters* and *Bald Eagle,* in the county of *Northumberland,* was read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a* "*ſeparate county,*" may be paſſed into a law, the ſeat of juſtice in and for the ſaid intended county fixed at *Kiſhicoquillis* Old-town, and ſaid townſhips annexed thereto.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Alexander Lewis* was read, ſetting forth, that he hath invented and conſtructed a water-engine for raiſing of water 36 feet above its level, and that he hath alſo conſtructed a boat of 25 tons burthen, which will proceed up any ſtream capable to float the ſame with the aſſiſtance of three men only, and praying encouragement from the Houſe; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Wynkoop,* Mr. *Chapman,* Mr. *Willing,* Mr. *Kennedy,* Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

Petitions from about 700 inhabitants of the county of *Weſtmoreland* were read, praying that the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the* "*counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" may be ſo amended, as not to extend further up the *Youghiogeny* than *Crawford's* ſleeping place, and from thence by a ſtraight line to the mouth of *Plumb* creek, on the *Allegheny* river.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Wyoming,* and parts of the townſhips of *Cattaweſſy* and *Mahoning,* in the county of *Northumberland,* was read, praying they may be erected into a ſeparate diſtrict for the purpoſe of holding their general elections; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Maclay,* Mr. *White* and Mr. *Daviſon,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

The petitions of a number of the freemen of the third election diſtrict in the county of *Northumberland,* and of divers inhabitants of the townſhips of *Penns* and *Beaver,* in the ſaid county, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to the laſt named committee, to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

A petition from *Andrew Kuntz* was read, praying payment for a ſervant enliſted in the army of the United States, and taken priſoner at *Fort Waſhington*; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 15th laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A petition from *Abraham Anderſon,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from confinement; and on motion and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Salter*, to report thereon.

A petition from the committee of the public creditors was read, praying an act may be paſſed, making the bills of credit emitted by this ſtate in the year 1785 receivable in the payment of all the taxes and aſſeſſments within this ſtate, and of all fees to officers; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, to report thereon.

The petition of *Agnes Downey*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Beale*, Mr. *Flenniken* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of the members of the religious ſociety of *German* Roman Catholics of the church called the *Holy Trinity*, in the city of *Philadelphia*, read *September* 6th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of *Benjamin Moore*, read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *M'Dowell* and Mr. *Clark*, to report thereon.

The petition of *John Franklin*, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Logan*, Mr. *Burkhalter* and Mr. *Schott*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, and report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Luzerne*, read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Evans*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Kreemer*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Findley*, Mr. *M'Dowell*, Mr. *M'Lene*, Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Schott*, to report thereon.

The petition of a number of the inhabitants reſiding on and near the river *Coneſtogoe*, in the county of *Lancaſter*, read *March* 27th laſt, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on that part of the Meſſage relative to a gun-powder magazine, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed yeſterday, on the petition of *John Armſtrong*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be informed that the Houſe deem it inexpedient at this time to comply with the requeſt of Captain *John Armſtrong*, contained in his petition to Council, and by them tranſmitted to this Houſe.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act*, *entituled* " An Act to alter and amend an " act, entituled " *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* " *lands within this ſtate*," be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on the petition of *Philip Dick* and *Catharine* his wife, read *March* 8th laſt; and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to iſſue a certificate to the ſaid petitioners for *ſeven pounds five ſhillings and four-pence,* bearing intereſt from the 9th day of *July,* 1779, as an equivalent to *one hundred and thirty-eight pounds,* a forfeited debt, paid to *Iſaac Snowden,* Eſquire, Treaſurer, *July* 9th, 1779, as appears by his certificate.

On the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame ?*"—

It was carried in the negative.

Agreeably to leave given, a member preſented to the chair a bill, entituled " *An Act to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman* " *Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 10, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from *David Rittenhouſe,* Eſquire, State Treaſurer, was read, ſtating that there is now in the treaſury the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* in bills of credit, pierced and ready to be burned, whenever this Houſe ſhall direct.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Lewis Prahl,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying this Houſe to grant him a reaſonable compenſation for the arms, *&c.* made by him for the uſe of this ſtate, and taken by the enemy on the 28th *September,* 1777.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the members of the Preſbyterian Congregation of *Tredyffrin* townſhip, in the county of *Cheſter,* was read, praying to be incorporated; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill conformably to the prayer of their petition.

The petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The report read *March* 20th laſt, on the accounts of *Gunning Bedford* and others, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for the balance of their accounts.

Ordered, That Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *Philips,* Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Schott* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled " *An Act for allow-* " *ing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this* " *commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide "*Waſhington* county into election diſtricts," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the* "*ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 11, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 10*th*, 1788.

SIR,

I Have the honor to encloſe you, by order of Council, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, a petition from *Jacob Gerhart*, one of the Collectors in *Montgomery* county, whoſe caſe, if truly ſtated, claims the attention of the legiſlature.

I have the honor to be, with great reſpect,
SIR,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the incloſed petition was alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Cart* was read, ſetting forth, that the right to two city lots, marked in the general plan of the city of *Philadelphia* No. 78 and No. 79, is veſted in him by deſcent; and that he made application to the Supreme Executive Council for a confirmation thereof, but the act authoriſing Council to eſtabliſh and confirm ſuch claims having expired the day preceding his application, his petition was rejected; therefore praying this Houſe to grant him relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from the contributors towards the founding and endowing a public ſchool for the town and county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying that a proportionable part of the public lands reſerved for the endowment of public ſchools may be appropriated by law for the county ſchool now founding in the town of *Huntingdon* aforeſaid.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the committee of accounts be, and they are hereby authoriſed and directed to count, burn and deſtroy *twenty thouſand pounds* of the bills of credit emitted by virtue of the act, entituled "*An Act for furniſhing* "*the quota of this ſtate towards paying the annual intereſt of the debts of the* "*United States, and for funding and paying the intereſt of the public debts of* "*this ſtate,*" by the ſaid Treaſurer pierced for that purpoſe, and report to this Houſe.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh* "*a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes there-*"*in mentioned,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe, in conformity to their reſolution of the ſixth inſtant, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, for the purpoſe of hearing counſel in behalf of the Pilots plying in the bay and river *Delaware,* on the ſubject of the ſaid bill.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and Mr. *Wynkoop* was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the ſaid counſel,

The Chairman quitted the chair, and the Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported that the committee had heard the counſel in behalf of the Pilots, on the ſubject of the ſaid bill: Whereupon

The bill being again before the Houſe,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*A* "*Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the "river *Coneſtogo,* in the county of *Lancaſter,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northum-"berland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the* "*third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Alliſon,*

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſh-"ington *into a ſeparate county,*" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 12, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Huntingdon* was read, praying *Aughwick* creek may be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of *Edward Stiles,* read *September* 4th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Findley,* to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with its incloſures, be referred to Mr. *Logan,* Mr. *Reiff* and Mr. *Lollar,* to report thereon.

The addreſs and memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald,* read *September* 5th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Evans,* Mr. *Hubley,* Mr. *J. Heiſter,* Mr. *Irvine,* Mr. *M‘Dowell* and Mr. *M‘Lene,* for the purpoſe of reporting the form and order of proceeding thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on that part of the meſſage from Council relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on that part of the meſſage of Council relative to the gun-powder magazine, poſtponed *September* 9th, and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to conſider of a ſpot ſuitable for a gun-powder magazine, without the city of *Philadelphia,* and at a ſafe diſtance from it, and to negociate the purchaſe.

On the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid reſolution?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *M‘Lene,* and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *George Logan,*
8 *Richard Peters,*
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
10 *John Chapman,*
11 *Samuel Foulke,*
12 *Valentine Upp,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Townſend Wheelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*

YEAS.

20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *William Mitchell,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*
24 *John Oliver,*
25 *Philip Kreemer,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28 *Peter Ealer,*
29 *Jacob Saylor,*
30 *John Irvine,*
31 *John Flenniken,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *Robert Lollar,*
34 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
35 *Peter Richards,*
36 *John Paul Schott,*
37 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *Joſeph Reed,*
2 *David Mitchell,*
3 *Thomas Beale,*
4 *Thomas Kennedy,*
5 *Joſeph Sands,*
6 *Peter Burkhalter,*
7 *John Piper,*
8 *Samuel Maclay,*
9 *John White,*
10 *William Findley,*

NAYS.

11 *James Barr,*
12 *John M‘Dowell,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *Theophilus Philips,*
16 *John Gilchreeſt,*
17 *James M‘Lene,*
18 *James M‘Calmont,*
19 *Jacob Miley,*
20 *Robert Clark.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in* "*the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of* "*holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church,* "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 13, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A return of the taxable property within the county of *Franklin,* for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *John Clendinnen,* an inſolvent debtor, confined in the goal of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants and landholders of the *Northern Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for building a draw-bridge acroſs* Cohockſinck *creek, in the* "Northern Liberties *of the city of* Philadelphia," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Elizabeth Kutz* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 6th, on that part of the meſſage relative to an aſſay of plate, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 10th, on the petition of *Sarah Caldwell,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the report on that part of the meſſage relative to the purchaſe of a tract of country on *Lake Erie,* and adopted the ſame, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the letter from the Vice-Preſident and Supreme Executive Council, reſpecting the purchaſe of the triangular piece of land, lying between the weſtern line of *New-York,* the northern line of *Pennſylvania* and part of *Lake Erie,* including the whole country within the ſaid boundaries, lately made by Council, through the delegates of this ſtate, of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, beg leave to report,——

That they have deliberately conſidered the ſaid letter and the papers accompanying the ſame, and have thereupon conferred with Council on the ſubject matter thereof.

That your committee are of opinion that the purchaſe made by Council is advantageous to this commonwealth, and ſhould be confirmed by this Houſe.

That it will therefore be neceſſary to provide adequate funds for complying with the contract, and making the purchaſe of the country from the *Indians*, agreeably to the policy and juſtice which have ever marked the conduct of *Pennſylvania* in ſuch caſes.

That as a treaty is now about to be held with the *Indians* at *Muſkingum*, it will be proper and œconomical to take advantage of this circumſtance to make overtures at leaſt, and, if practicable, to compleat the purchaſe of the ſaid country from the ſavages. The expence and delay of a particular treaty for ſo ſmall an object will hereby be avoided.

That in order to aſcertain, as nearly as might be, the quantity of land which was the ſubject of the contract, your committee requeſted the attendance of Mr. *Ellicot*, an intelligent perſon, and well acquainted with that country. But as the meridian line forming the weſtern boundary of *New-York* is not actually run, the quantity cannot with any degree of accuracy be aſcertained. On an eſtimate calculated on the ſuppoſed place of the ſaid meridian in a point of the northern line of *Pennſylvania*, the moſt favorable to the pretenſions of *New-York*, there appear to be about one million of acres contained within the boundaries of this purchaſe. Wherefore your committee are of opinion that the following reſolutions be recommended to the conſideration of the Houſe.

Reſolved, That this Houſe accept, on the part of this commonwealth, the contract made with the Board of Treaſury of the United States, by the Supreme Executive Council of this ſtate, through the agency of the delegates of this ſtate in Congreſs, as mentioned in the propoſals of the ſaid delegates, dated the 7th day of *July* in the preſent year, referring to a reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th *June* in the ſame year, being the reſolution of Congreſs intended to be recited in the ſaid contract, which propoſals were accepted and agreed to by the ſaid Board of Treaſury on the 20th day of *Auguſt* laſt paſt, on the part of the United States; the ſaid propoſals and acceptance relating to a triangular piece or tract of country, ſituate, lying and being on *Lake Erie*; bounded on the eaſt by a meridian line, part of the weſtern boundary of the ſtate of *New-York*; on the ſouth by part of the northern boundary of the ſtate of *Pennſylvania*, being a continuation of the line between this ſtate and that of *New-York*, from the weſtern boundary of the ſaid ſtate till it interſects the ſaid *Lake Erie*; and thence by the ſaid lake, including *Preſque Iſle*, and running north-eaſterly, or as the margin of the ſaid lake runs, according to the ſeveral courſes thereof (with all benefit, property and advantages of the coaſts, bays and inlets, on and near that part of the margin of the ſaid lake which is the boundary of the country herein deſcribed or intended ſo to be) till it meets the ſaid meridian line before mentioned; and the ſaid contract and agreement is hereby confirmed, ratified and agreed to, by and on the part of this ſtate.

That it is hereby recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly of this commonwealth, to provide certificates of debts due from the United

States, fully to pay and diſcharge the conſideration monies due agreeably to the ſaid contract, at three fourths of a dollar per acre, according to the terms of the ſaid contract, ſo ſoon as the ſame land ſhall be ſurveyed, and the quantity aſcertained, in the manner preſcribed by the reſolution of Congreſs of the 6th of *June* laſt, and the ſaid before deſcribed tract conveyed to this commonwealth.

That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and fully empowered to take the neceſſary ſteps for purchaſing of the *Indians*, who have juſt claims thereto, the ſaid tract of country, and for this purpoſe to appoint, when they may think it neceſſary, two perſons as Commiſſioners to negociate and complete the ſaid purchaſe.

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they are hereby authoriſed and empowered to draw on the Treaſurer of this ſtate for a ſum not exceeding *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, for the purpoſe of making the purchaſe of the *Indians* of the ſaid tract, and bearing all expences of the ſame, agreeably to an eſtimate by the ſaid Council communicated to this Houſe.

That, as there is a preſſing neceſſity of immediately raiſing the ſaid ſum of *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, the committee of ways and means be, and they are hereby directed to report the beſt and ſpeedieſt mode of procuring and paying the ſaid ſum to the order of the Supreme Executive Council.

A member, having obtained leave, read in his place, and preſented to the chair, a bill, entituled "*An Act for ſuſpending for a limited time the ſale of* "*unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes*," which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth.*

An ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary's *church, in the city of* Philadelphia.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

A motion was then made to adjourn, which was carried in the affirmative: Whereupon

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock on *Monday* next, A. M.

Monday, *September* 15, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *John Van Campen* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for quieting the diſturbances at* Wyoming, *and for con-* "*firming to certain perſons, called* Connecticut Claimants, *the lands by them* "*claimed within the county of* Luzerne," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *September* 8th, on that part of the meſſage relative to the diſturbances at *Wyoming*.

Petitions from 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin* were read, ſetting forth that *George Fry*, of *Middletown*, in the ſaid county, hath at a conſiderable expence erected a mill and dug a race, about one mile and a half in length, for the purpoſe of conducting the waters of *Swetara* creek to the ſaid mill, but finds it neceſſary to erect a tumbling dam ſufficient to ſwell the waters of the ſaid creek about three feet above its common level; therefore praying this Houſe to give him leave to bring in a bill for the aforeſaid purpoſe.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The motion by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Peters*, poſtponed *March* 28th laſt, was reſumed, and after ſome debtae,

Ordered, That the ſame be referred to Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

The report on the petition of *Sarah Caldwell*, read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *Sarah Caldwell*, report——

That it appears, by a certificate ſigned by the Comptroller-General, that there was iſſued from that office three certificates to *Andrew Caldwell*, for the reſpective ſums of *ſeven hundred and thirty-four pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence*, *ſix hundred and forty-nine pounds eleven ſhillings and two-pence*, and *five hundred and eighty-ſix pounds ten ſhillings*; and to *Sarah Caldwell* eight certificates, for the following ſums, *twenty-one pounds ſixteen ſhillings and five-pence*, *twenty-three pounds fifteen ſhillings and nine-pence*, *ſixty-ſix pounds eighteen ſhillings and eleven-pence*, *forty-one pounds five ſhillings*, *thirty-eight pounds ſix ſhillings and eight-pence*, *one hundred and ſixty-five pounds two ſhillings and ſix-pence*, *one hundred and ſeventy-one pounds twelve ſhillings and four-pence*, *fourteen pounds one ſhilling and three-pence*, making *five hundred and forty-two pounds eighteen ſhillings and ten-pence*.

And by an affidavit of the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell* it appears, that all the above certificates were the property of her the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell* and her five children, and were loſt by her on the 18th day of *January* laſt.

The committee were deſirous of recommending a general law to provide for all caſes of a like nature, but, upon the fulleſt conſideration, were induced to believe none could be deviſed, that would not be liable to abuſe.

They are nevertheleſs of opinion that the petitioner's caſe merits the interference of the legiſlature, and therefore ſubmit the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Comptroller-General to certify to the State Treaſurer the annual intereſt due on the certificates loſt by *Sarah Caldwell*, and to authoriſe the State Treaſurer to pay ſuch intereſt annually, on receiving ſuch acknowledgment for the payments ſo to be made, as will prevent the ſtate from being again liable therefor.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Findley*, be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, "*and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Rittenhouſe*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this* "*commonwealth,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis*,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the due "collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the better aſcertaining and making good* "*loſſes of public monies by robberies,*" was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral im-* "*poſt laws of this ſtate, as confine the allowing of drawbacks on goods exported* "*to the original importers thereof, and oblige the exporters to produce certifi-* "*cates of the landing of ſuch goods,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 16, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Comptroller-General was read, ſtating many inconveniencies in the preſent mode of enforcing the ſpeedy collection and payment of taxes, and ſuggeſting the propriety of divers alterations in the ſame.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 12th, on the addreſs and memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time; and in debating the following reſolution, *viz.*

"*Reſolved,* That as the General Aſſembly is of the nature of a Grand In-"queſt for the ſtate, this Houſe will reſolve itſelf into a committee of the "whole, to enquire, by parole or other evidence, into the truth of the "charges exhibited in the memorial of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the "Judges of the Supreme Court, and to determine whether or not the charges "are a ſufficient ground for impeaching the ſaid Judges."

It was moved by Mr. *Fitzſimons*, ſeconded by Mr. *Wynkoop*,

To amend the ſaid reſolution, by inſerting, after the word "*will,*" the words "*on* Tueſday *next.*"

Which was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was then made by Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

To re-conſider the ſaid amendment, in order to ſtrike out the words "*on* Tueſday *next.*"

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to re-conſider the ſaid amendment, for the aforeſaid purpoſe?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Kennedy*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*

YEAS.

3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *John Piper,*

YEAS.
5 *John M'Dowell,*
6 *James M'Lene,*

NAYS.
1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *George Logan,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *James Clemſon,*
20 *Jacob Erb,*
21 *John Hopkins,*
22 *William Mitchell,*
23 *Joſeph Reed,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *John Oliver,*
26 *Joſeph Heiſter,*

YEAS.
7 *James M'Calmont,*
8 *Robert Clark.*

NAYS.
27 *Joſeph Sands,*
28 *Philip Kreemer,*
29 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
30 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
31 *Peter Burkhalter,*
32 *Peter Ealer,*
33 *Jacob Saylor,*
34 *Samuel Maclay,*
35 *John White,*
36 *William Findley,*
37 *James Barr,*
38 *John Irvine,*
39 *James Alliſon,*
40 *Alexander Wright,*
41 *John Flenniken,*
42 *Theophilus Philips,*
43 *John Gilchreeſt,*
44 *Jacob Reiff,*
45 *Robert Lollar,*
46 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
47 *Peter Richards,*
48 *Jacob Miley,*
49 *John Carſon,*
50 *John Paul Schott,*
51 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

Whereupon the ſaid reſolution, as amended, was adopted, as follows, *viz.*

That this Houſe will, on *Tueſday* next, reſolve itſelf into a committee of the whole, to enquire, by parole or other evidence, into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of the ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court, and to determine whether or not the charges are a ſufficient ground for impeaching the ſaid Judges.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *An Act for erecting parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county*,” was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Saturday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery*;” and having debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Maclay*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Ordered, That *Thurſday* next be aſſigned for the ſecond reading of the bill, entituled “ *An Act for ſuſpending, for a limited time, the ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes*,” and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of the ſuffering inhabitants of* "*the townſhips of* Wayne *and* Derry, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 17, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Tranſcripts of taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property of and in the counties of *Berks* and *Weſtmoreland,* for the year 1788, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the delegates repreſenting this ſtate, in the Congreſs of the United States, directed to the Speaker, was read, as follows, *viz.*

New-York, 13*th September,* 1788.

SIR,

THIS letter will be accompanied by an act of Congreſs of this morning, which Mr. Secretary *Thomſon* will have the honor of tranſmitting.

The public intereſt and expectation excited by the ſubject of it—the time employed in its diſcuſſion—and the temper in which it has been advocated by ſome ſtates and oppoſed by others, make it not leſs neceſſary, than reſpectful, that we ſhould ſtate the facts under which we gave the aſſent of *Pennſylvania* to the deciſion which has been taken: Theſe are——

1ſt. That ſome ſtates, who invariably contended with us for giving a more central reſidence to the national government, withdrew themſelves from Congreſs while the diſpute was depending; leaving the minority extremely ſmall, and without a hope of ſucceeding, but ſuch as grew out of the bare poſſibility of a change of ſentiment, or relaxation of obſtinacy in the majority.

And 2d. That others of the ſame deſcription, believing that the organization of the new government could not be longer ſuſpended, without riſquing conſequences more diſagreeable than any that could reſult from the mere circumſtance of the place at which the government might be convened—determined to yield the objections they had made, and acquieſce in the appointment of *New-York.*

Under theſe facts the delegates of *Pennſylvania* were left to chooſe between oppoſing alone and unſucceſsfully, or ſubmitting to the predetermined ſenſe of the union. We did not heſitate in chooſing the latter, perſuaded that, of the two alternatives, this was at once the moſt dignified and wiſe.

We are, SIR,
With the higheſt reſpect,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,
WM. IRVINE,
SAM. MEREDITH,
JOHN ARMSTRONG, JUN.
JAMES R. REID.

Honorable the SPEAKER *of the*
General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania,

A letter from his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, together with its incloſures, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *September 16th*, 1788.

SIR,

THE incloſed letter from our delegates, together with a letter from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, incloſing an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by the Conventions of eleven ſtates, the Board direct me to tranſmit to you, the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
B. FRANKLIN.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire.*

A letter directed to his Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing letter directed to Mr. Speaker, was alſo tranſmitted, and read.

(CIRCULAR)

OFFICE *of* SECRETARY *of* CONGRESS, *September 13th*, 1788.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to tranſmit to your Excellency, herewith encloſed, an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by the Conventions of eleven ſtates.

With great reſpect, I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's moſt obedient
And moſt humble ſervant,
CHARLES THOMSON.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT
of Pennſylvania.

By the UNITED STATES *in* CONGRESS *aſſembled, September 13th*, 1788.

WHEREAS the Convention aſſembled in *Philadelphia*, purſuant to the reſolution of Congreſs of the 21ſt *February*, 1787, did, on the 17th of *September* in the ſame year, report to the United States in Congreſs aſſembled a conſtitution for the people of the United States; whereupon Congreſs, on the 28th of the ſame *September*, did reſolve unanimouſly, "That the ſaid report, with the reſolutions and letter accompanying the ſame, be tranſmitted to the ſeveral Legiſlatures, in order to be ſubmitted to a Convention of delegates choſen in each ſtate by the people thereof, in conformity to the reſolves of the Convention made and provided in that caſe."

And whereas the conſtitution ſo reported by the Convention, and by Congreſs tranſmitted to the ſeveral Legiſlatures, has been ratified in the manner therein declared to be ſufficient for the eſtabliſhment of the ſame, and ſuch ratifications, duly authenticated, have been received by Congreſs, and are filed in the office of the Secretary: Therefore,

Reſolved, That the firſt *Wedneſday* in *January* next be the day for appointing electors in the ſeveral ſtates, which before the ſaid day ſhall have ratified the ſaid conſtitution; that the firſt *Wedneſday* in *February* next, be the day for the electors to aſſemble in their reſpective ſtates, and vote for a Preſident; and that the firſt *Wedneſday* in *March* next be the time, and the preſent ſeat of Congreſs the place, for commencing proceedings under the ſaid conſtitution.

CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

A petition from *Frances Ramie* was read, ſetting forth, that her late huſband, *Lawrence Ramie,* purchaſed and improved a tract of land at the upper end of *Nanticoke* town, in the county of *Luzerne,* and was turned out of the poſſeſſion of the ſaid land in a lawleſs manner, and otherwiſe conſiderably injured in his property, by a certain *John Franklin* and others, and praying this Houſe to grant her relief in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from *Margaret Jones,* widow of *Gibbs Jones,* late a Captain in the *Pennſylvania* artillery, was read, ſetting forth, that her ſaid late huſband acted as Deputy-barrack-maſter in the city of *Philadelphia,* for which no full compenſation hath been made, and praying this Houſe to grant her relief; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood,* in the county of *Cumberland,* was read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" and praying they may not be included within the lines of the new county propoſed to be erected.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Penn*'s valley, in the county of *Northumberland,* of a ſimilar tenor with the foregoing petition of the inhabitants of the townſhip of *Greenwood,* was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the county of *Bucks* was read, praying that the quit-rents impoſed on the proprietary tenths or manors may be extinguiſhed and aboliſhed.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petition of *Abraham Anderſon,* made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That *Abraham Anderſon* have leave to withdraw his petition.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* "Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned;*" and having in part debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter.

An ACT *to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral impoſt laws of this ſtate, as confines the allowing of drawbacks on goods exported to the original importers thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch goods.*

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 18, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 18*th*, 1788.

SIR,

BY direction of Council I do myſelf the honor to tranſmit you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly, a memorial from Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and company, merchants, of this city—two letters, the one from *Charles Thomſon*, Eſquire, Secretary of Congreſs, incloſing a ſtate of the repreſentation in Congreſs for the months of *June*, *July* and *Auguſt*, 1788, and the other from the Honorable *Samuel Johnſton*, Eſquire, Preſident of the Convention of the ſtate of *North-Carolina*, incloſing two reſolutions of the ſaid Convention; together with a letter from his Excellency *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire, Governor of the weſtern territory, dated the firſt inſtant, which is juſt come to hand.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

The Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the ſeveral papers therewith tranſmitted were alſo read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A remonſtrance from a number of the inhabitants of *Upper Bald-Eagle* and *Potter*'s townſhips, in the weſt end of *Penn*'s valley, in the county of *Northumberland*, was read, ſtating that they were inadvertently induced to ſign a petition to be included within the boundaries of the new county propoſed to be erected by the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*," and praying they may be continued as part of the ſaid county of *Northumberland*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Petitions from 732 inhabitants of the townſhips of *Milford*, *Lack*, *Fermanagh* and *Greenwood*, were read, remonſtrating againſt the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county*," and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from divers inhabitants of the *Northern-Liberties* of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, ſetting forth, that their endeavours in the encouragement and improvement of the *Callowhill* market are fruſtrated, by butchers and others hawking meat, *&c.* for ſale within the ſaid *Liberties*, and praying this Houſe to take the premiſes into conſideration; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from *Philadelphia* county, to report thereon.

A petition from *Abraham Morrow* was read, ſetting forth, that he was employed in repairing the arms of the militia of the county of *Philadelphia*, and for which he hath not been paid, and praying this houſe to direct payment thereof; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl*, and others.

A petition from *John Spand*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

A tranſcript of the accounts of the managers of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for the preceding year was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The letter of his Excellency the Preſident, and the act of Congreſs for putting into operation the conſtitution now ratified by eleven ſtates, read yeſterday, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Lene*, with inſtructions to report the principles of a bill, if they think proper

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this commonwealth*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for ſuſpending, for a limited time, the ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes*," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday,

Friday, September 19, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Robert R. Hunter* and *John Pincaut,* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were ſeverally read, praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kremeer,* to report thereon.

A petition from *Elizabeth Parker* was read, ſetting forth, that ſhe was appointed matron to the General Hoſpital on the 3d *May,* 1777, and continued in that ſervice until *September* 1ſt, 1779, and praying ſhe may be allowed the depreciation due on her pay; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the committee appointed *November* 1ſt laſt, on the petitions of *Nicholas Krehl,* and others.

A petition from *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan,* priſoners under ſentence of death, by virtue of certain proceedings to out-lawry had againſt them, was read, praying the interpoſition of the legiſlature, in order to reſtore them to the ineſtimable privilege of trial by jury; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *Findley,* to make report thereon.

Petitions from 1573 inhabitants of the counties of *Weſtmoreland* and *Waſhington* were read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting parts of* "*the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 19*th,* 1788.

SIR,

THE memorial of *David Linton,* of the county of *Lancaſter,* is encloſed for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly. The merits of this active citizen in apprehending a daring villain, in the opinion of Council, claim the attention and ſome reward from your honorable Houſe.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſaid letter and memorial were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *Carſon,* to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, dated *September* 18th, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the memorial of *Turnbull*, *Marmie* and Company, be referred to Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Findley*, to report thereon.

Ordered, That the letter from his Excellency *Arthur St. Clair*, Eſquire, Governor of the weſtern territory, together with the ſeveral papers on the ſame ſubject, be referred to Mr. *Peters*, Mr. *Wynkoop*, Mr. *Willing*, Mr. *Hubley*, Mr. *Kennedy*, Mr. *Piper*, Mr. *Irvine*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, with inſtructions to confer with Council, if they deem it neceſſary, and report thereon.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report, that they have received from *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *twenty thouſand pounds* in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by act of General Aſſembly paſſed *March* 16th, 1785, *viz.*

10000 bills of *twenty ſhillings* each,	£ 10000	0	0
10000 ditto of *fifteen ſhillings* each,	7500	0	0
4800 ditto of *ten ſhillings* each,	2400	0	0
400 ditto of *five ſhillings* each,	100	0	0
	£ 20000	0	0

All of which aboveſaid bills we have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to* "*the act, entituled* "An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of "taxes within this commonwealth," was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford, *and* "*others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Phila-"delphia," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* "Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate, and the public arms* "*and ſtores*," was read the third time; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſenta-"tives of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General "Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, that the Supreme Execu-"tive Council be authoriſed, and they are hereby authoriſed and directed to "draw their warrant on the State Treaſurer, in favor of Lieutenant-Colonel "*Francis Mentges*, for the ſum of *one hundred pounds*, as a full compenſation "for the ſervices rendered as aforeſaid."

On the queſtion—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Robert Ralſton*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Richard Willing*,
15 *Townſend Whelen*,
16 *Alexander Lowrey*,
17 *Adam Hubley*,
18 *William Mitchell*,

YEAS.

19 *David M‘Clellan*,
20 *Joſeph Lilley*,
21 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
22 *Philip Kreemer*,
23 *Joſeph Sands*,
24 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
25 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
26 *Peter Burkhalter*,
27 *Peter Ealer*,
28 *Jacob Saylor*,
29 *John Irvine*,
30 *Theophilus Philips*,
31 *Robert Lollar*,
32 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
33 *Peter Richards*,
34 *John Carſon*,
35 *John Paul Schott*,
36 *Hugh Daviſon*.

NAYS.

1 *George Logan*,
2 *Samuel Foulke*,
3 *Valentine Upp*,
4 *James Clemſon*,
5 *Jacob Erb*,
6 *John Hopkins*,
7 *Joſeph Reed*,
8 *David Mitchell*,
9 *Thomas Beale*,
10 *Thomas Kennedy*,
11 *John Oliver*,
12 *John Piper*,

NAYS.

13 *William Findley*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *John M‘Dowell*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *Alexander Wright*,
18 *John Flenniken*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James M‘Lene*,
21 *James M‘Calmont*,
22 *Jacob Reiff*,
23 *Robert Clark*.

So it was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,
Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.
Adjourned until half paſt nine o'clock to-morrow, A, M.

Saturday, *September* 20, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *Elizabeth Kutz*, read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the members from the county of *Northampton*, to report thereon.

The letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, incloſing the petition of *John M‘Calmont*, read *March* 8th laſt, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſame, together with the ſaid petition, be referred to the committee on ways and means, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county;*" and having debated the ſame in part by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Monday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate and the public arms and ſtores,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

* * *

Monday, September 22, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September* 22, 1788.

SIR,

THE encloſed letter from *Charles Thomſon,* Eſquire, together with an act of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, paſſed the ſixteenth inſtant, the board direct me to tranſmit to you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the ſaid letter, with its encloſures, be referred to Mr. *Lewis,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

Petitions from *David Griffith* and *Joſeph R. Robinſon* inſolvent debtors, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia,* were read, ſeverally praying to be releaſed from their confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer,* to report thereon.

A petition from 200 inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia* was read, praying that the ſentence of death on out-lawry againſt *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan* may be reverſed, and they admitted to the benefit of a trial by jury.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A memorial from *Eleazer Oſwald,* of the city of *Philadelphia,* printer, was read, praying ſummonſes may iſſue to compel the attendance of witneſſes on his part, in ſupport of the charges contained in his memorial, read *September* 5th, againſt three of the Judges of the Supreme Court; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Speaker be authoriſed to iſſue ſubpœnas, for the attendance of the witneſſes named in a liſt preſented with the ſaid memorial.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, praying the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of* "*the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" may be paſſed into a law.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, on the petition of *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan,* reported a bill, entituled "*An Act to reverſe the out-* "*lawries of* Levi Doan *and* Abraham Doan, *priſoners in the gaol of* Philadel- "phia *county, under ſentence of death, upon the ſaid out-lawries,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* "Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the* "*Commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands* "*for non-payment of taxes,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

On motion,

Ordered, That one hundred and fifty copies of the aforeſaid act be printed, and tranſmitted to the Commiſſioners of the reſpective counties, for their government.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 23, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The petition of *John Clendenen,* read *September* 13th, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will,* Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer,* to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 19th, on the petition of *David Linton,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 18th, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, with its encloſures, relative to the organization of the conſtitution adopted for the government of the United States, reported a bill, entituled "*An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections* "*for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the United* "*States, and of appointing electors on the part of this ſtate for the choice of a* "*Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to enquire into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, Mr. *Peters* was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made ſome progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again in the afternoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to reverſe the out-lawries of* Levi Doan *and* "Abraham Doan, *priſoners in the goal of* Philadelphia, *under ſentence of death, upon the ſaid out-lawries,*" was read the ſecond time.

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſem- "bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That all and every the proceſs "and proceedings in out-lawry, iſſued and had againſt them the ſaid *Levi* "*Doan* and *Abraham Doan,* and each of them, upon the ſaid indictments, "or any other indictments againſt them or either of them, found in any "courts or court within this commonwealth, and all judgments of out- "lawry paſſed againſt them and each of them in the ſaid Supreme or any "other Court, and all judgment and judgments of death againſt them and "each of them, awarded upon ſuch out-lawry or out-lawries, and all ex- "ecutions of ſuch judgment and judgments of death againſt them and each "of them, be, and they are hereby declared to be reverſed and made null "and void, by whatſoever names they the ſaid *Levi Doan* and *Abraham* "*Doan,* or either of them, may be therein mentioned and deſcribed; and "that they, the ſaid *Levi Doan* and *Abraham Doan*, and each of them, ſhall "be entitled to free and impartial trials by jury upon the ſaid indictments "or charges for the original offences by them alledged to be committed, "in the ſame manner, and all proceedings againſt them ſhall be had in the "ſame form, and the effects thereof ſhall be the ſame, as if no proceſs, "proceeding or judgment in out-lawry, or judgment and award of execu- "tion of death, had been iſſued, had or awarded againſt them, or either "of them."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"

It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Fitzſimons,* ſeconded by Mr. *Lewis,*

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with Council on the caſe of *Abraham Doan* and *Levi Doan,* and to requeſt a reſpite of their execution for ſix days.

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe* be a committee for the purpoſe contained in the foregoing reſolution.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made ſome further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

On motion,

Reſolved, That Mr. Speaker be directed to iſſue a ſubpœna for the attendance of *Thomas Proctor,* Eſquire, to-morrow, to give teſtimony relating to matters contained in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald.*

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, September 24, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from 259 inhabitants of the county of *Northampton* were read, praying a further ſum of money may be granted for opening the road from the river *Lehigh* to the river *Suſquehanna,* at the falls of *Neſcopeck.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

The petitions of 1750 inhabitants of the county of *Dauphin,* relative to the erection of a dam in the river *Swetara* by *George Fry,* read *September* 15th, were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be ſpecially referred to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The committee appointed yeſterday to confer with Council on the caſe of *Abraham Doan* and *Levi Doan,* and to requeſt a reſpite of their execution for ſix days, made report, that they had had a conference with Council, and recieved for anſwer, that Council do not deem it proper to grant the reſpite requeſted.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. Speaker be directed to iſſue ſubpœnas for the attendance of *John Chaloner, Iſrael Iſrael, William Kidd* and *John M'Crea,* to give teſtimony relating to matters contained in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald.*

The report of the committee, to whom was referred the reſolution of Congreſs relative to the organization of the fœderal government, *&c.* read yeſterday, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That this Houſe will during this ſeſſion appoint two Senators by ballot, to take their ſeats as Senators for this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution now adopted for the government of ſuch of the United States as have agreed to or ſhall hereafter adopt the ſame: Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *Hubley*,

Ordered, That *Tueſday* next be aſſigned for the election of two Senators conformably to the foregoing reſolution, and that nomination take place previous to that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Friday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate* " *county,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the " due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth," and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled " *An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates within this* " *commonwealth,*" be poſtponed.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *G. Heiſter*, Mr. *Rittenhouſe* and Mr. *M'Lene* be a committee, to obtain information from the managers of the manufacturing ſociety, with reſpect to the workmanſhip in ſundry ſpecimens performed by *John Hewſon* and *Robert Taylor,* and to report thereon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act directing the times, places and manner of hold-* " *ing elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the* " *United States, and of appointing Electors on the part of this ſtate for the* " *choice of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſti-* " *tution,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, " *in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place* " *of holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to the act, entituled* " An Act to divide " *Waſhington* county into election diſtricts," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to regulate the general elections of this commonwealth, and to prevent frauds " therein," was read the third time; and in debating the ſame, It was moved by Mr. *Lewis* and Mr. *Carſon*,

To ſtrike out the title of the ſaid bill, and in lieu thereof to inſert the following, *viz.*

" *An Act to alter certain election diſtricts within the counties of* Dauphin *and* " Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein.*"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—

It was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled " *An Act for erecting certain parts of the counties of* " Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county,*" having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Piper*,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and of Recorder of deeds, for the county of *Allegheny.*

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further propreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, September 25, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Petitions from *Robert Galbreath, James Perry, James Briſon, Jacob Weitzel, Samuel Jones, George Thompſon* and *William Tilton*, were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

A repreſentation from the Juſtices of the Supreme Court was read, referring to their repreſentation of the hardſhips they have ſuſtained in the payment of their ſalaries in the paper bills of credit, read *February* 27th laſt, and ſtating that the depreciation thereof has continued ever ſince, and that they do not receive more than about two thirds of the ſums of money to them reſpectively engaged in the moſt expreſs and unequivocal words, by as ſacred a contract as can be made by a ſociety with individuals, and entreating the determination of this Houſe in the premiſes.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* " Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned*;" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* " An Act to enforce " the due collection and payment of taxes;" and having further debated the ſame,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed until to-morrow, and that it be the order for that day.

On motion,

Ordered, That *Saturday* next be aſſigned for reſuming the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*;" and that it be the order for that day.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to reſume the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in hearing the witneſſes, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made a further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again on *Tueſday* next, in the forenoon:

Which was accordingly granted.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, *September* 26, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER, *September 25th*, 1788.

SIR,

COLONEL *Pickering*, in behalf of Captain *William Roſs*, having preferred a claim which Council preſume will merit the attention of your honorable Houſe, it is with no ſmall pleaſure I tranſmit the purport of it, as expreſſed in that gentleman's letter to the Board of the twenty-fourth inſtant.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And the incloſed letter was alſo read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame letters were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Rittenhouſe,* with inſtructions to report a bill, if they deem it neceſſary.

Petitions from *George Wallace* and *Eli Coulter* were read, ſeverally praying to be appointed Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny.*

Ordered to lie on the table.

Tranſcripts of the taxes aſſeſſed upon the inhabitants and taxable property within the counties of *York* and *Northampton,* for the year 1788, were preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the townſhips of *Dublin* and *Shirley,* in the county of *Huntingdon,* was read, praying *Aughwick* creek may not be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The report read *September* 23d, on the petition of *David Linton,* was read the ſecond time, and adopted as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the petition of *David Linton,* report,——

That they have carefully examined the petitioner, and have reaſon to believe the circumſtances ſet forth in his petition of taking *George Sinclair* to be true; and are of opinion the riſque he run in apprehending and ſecuring ſo daring a villain entitles him to ſome reward from his country.

The committee therefore offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authoriſing the Supreme Executive Council to draw an order on the State Treaſurer in favor of *David Linton,* for his ſervices aforeſaid.

Ordered, That Mr. *Lowrey,* Mr. *Kreemer* and Mr. *Carſon* be a committee, to bring in a bill conformably to the foregoing reſolution.

The committee appointed *March* 19th laſt, on the reſolution to enquire into and examine the mode of tranſacting the public buſineſs at the office of the Comptroller-General, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A member in his place, with leave of the Houſe, read and preſented to the Speaker a bill, entituled "*An Act to make the bills of credit of this com-*" "*monwealth, emitted by an act of General Aſſembly, paſſed the ſixteenth of*" "March, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, receivable*" "*in payment of all public taxes,*" which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting* "*part of the county of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county,*" was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to the act, entituled* "An Act to "enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this common-"wealth;" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion of Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

Ordered, That *Monday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in* "*the caſes therein deſcribed,*" and that it be the order for that day.

On motion of Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *M'Dowell,*

Ordered, That *Wedneſday* next be aſſigned for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*A Supplement to an act, entituled* "An Act to alter and "amend an act, entituled "*An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the un-*"*appropriated lands within this ſtate,*" and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money* "*to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal* "*arch in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," was read the ſecond time; and in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania,* in General Aſſem-"bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That upon ſufficient ſecurity "being given by the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell,* for the uſe of the ſtate, to his "Excellency the Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council, or, in his "abſence, to the Vice-Preſident for the time being, to indemnify the ſtate "againſt the ſaid certificates, and on the ſame being duly certified to the "Comptroller-General for the time being, the ſaid Comptroller-General "ſhall and is hereby authoriſed and directed to certify in favor of the ſaid "*Sarah Caldwell,* or her legal repreſentatives, to the State Treaſurer afore-"ſaid, the intereſt accrued and to accrue on the ſaid ſum of *two thouſand* "*five hundred and thirteen pounds twelve ſhillings and ſix-pence,* ſince the laſt "payment of intereſt on the ſaid certificates up to the time the firſt certifi-"cate of intereſt ſhall be made on the ſaid ſum of money, and from the "date of ſuch firſt certificate, yearly and every year, to certify the intereſt "that may thereafter accrue on the ſaid ſum, which ſaid reſpective certifi-"cates of the Comptroller-General for the time being, ſo to be made, of the "intereſt as aforeſaid, ſhall be authority to the State Treaſurer for the time "being to pay the ſame reſpectively to the ſaid *Sarah Caldwell,* or her legal "repreſentatives, and the Treaſurer aforeſaid is hereby enjoined and required "to pay the ſame accordingly."

It was moved by Mr. *Lollar,* ſeconded by Mr. *G. Heiſter,*

To inſert, after the words "*That upon ſufficient,*" the word "*real.*"

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the propoſed amendment?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Lollar* and Mr. *Lewis*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Samuel Foulke*,
2 *Valentine Upp*,
3 *Joſeph Reed*,
4 *David Mitchell*,
5 *Thomas Beale*,
6 *Thomas Kennedy*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Joſeph Sands*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *Peter Ealer*,

YEAS.

15 *John Piper*,
16 *James Barr*,
17 *John M‘Dowell*,
18 *Alexander Wright*,
19 *John Flenniken*,
20 *Theophilus Philips*,
21 *John Gilchreeſt*,
22 *James M‘Lene*,
23 *James M‘Calmont*,
24 *Jacob Reiff*,
25 *Robert Lollar*,
26 *Peter Richards*,
27 *Jacob Miley*,
28 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Lewis*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,
10 *Robert Ralſton*,
11 *James Moore*,
12 *Richard Thomas*,
13 *Samuel Evans*,
14 *Townſend Whelen*,
15 *Alexander Lowrey*,
16 *Adam Hubley*,

NAYS.

17 *Joſeph Work*,
18 *James Clemſon*,
19 *Jacob Erb*,
20 *John Hopkins*,
21 *Michael Schmyſer*,
22 *William Mitchell*,
23 *Joſeph Lilley*,
24 *John Oliver*,
25 *Jacob Saylor*,
26 *Samuel Maclay*,
27 *John White*,
28 *William Findley*,
29 *James Alliſon*,
30 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
31 *John Carſon*,
32 *Hugh Daviſon*.

So it was determined in the negative; and the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for veſting a lot of ground therein deſcribed,* "*with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* "Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide *Waſhington* "county into election diſtricts."

An ACT *to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the third diſtrict in ſaid county of* Northumberland.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, September 27, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *Henry C. Baker*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of a Regiſter for the probate of wills and granting letters of adminiſtration, and Recorder of deeds, in and for the county of *Allegheny*; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that *Samuel Jones*, Eſquire, was duly elected.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned in apprehending* George " Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled " *An* " *Act to grant the ſum of* *to Captain* William Roſs, *in* " *conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth*," which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. *Peters*, ſeconded by Mr. *Moore*,

Ordered, That the order of the day, for the further conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate auctions and vendues*," be poſtponed until *Wedneſday* next, and that it be the order for that day.

The bill, entituled " *An Act directing the times, places and manner of hold-* " *ing elections for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the* " *United States, and of appointing electors on the part of this ſtate for the choice* " *of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution*," was read the third time.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed until *Monday* next, in the afternoon.

The bill, entituled " *An Act to alter certain election diſtricts within the coun-* " *ties of* Dauphin *and* Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein*," having been brought in engroſſed, was compared at the table, enacted into a law, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame.

Adjourned until three o'clock on *Monday* next, P. M.

Monday, September 29, 1788. P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident of the Supreme Executive Council was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

IN COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, September 29th*, 1788.

S I R,

THE encloſed letter from *John Nicholſon*, Eſquire, Comptroller-General, recommending an application to Congreſs for a prolongation of the time allowed the Commiſſioner for examining the accounts of this ſtate with the union, dated this day, the Board direct me to tranſmit to you, for the conſideration of the General Aſſembly.

I have the honor to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
P. MUHLENBERG.

Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame were read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That they be referred to Mr. *Fitzſimons*, Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *Carſon*, to report thereon.

A petition from a number of the inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington* was read, of a ſimilar tenor with thoſe read *March* 12th laſt, from the inhabitants of the county of *Montgomery*, relative to the mode of enforcing the payment of debts.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *Robert Leſlie*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That the order of the day for the third reading of the bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue re-locating warrants in the caſes* "*therein deſcribed,*" be poſtponed.

The bill, entituled "*An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the fœderal government of the* "*United States, and of appointing electors, on the part of this ſtate, for the choice* "*of a Preſident of the United States, agreeably to the fœderal conſtitution,*" was read the third time; and in debating the ſame,

On motion,

It was agreed to poſtpone the further conſideration of the ſaid bill, in order to take a queſtion on the following propoſition, *viz.*

"Is it the opinion of the Houſe, that the election of repreſentatives to ſerve "in the fœderal government ſhould take place on the firſt *Wedneſday* of "*January* next."

On the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Findley* and Mr. *M'Calmont*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.	YEAS.
1 *George Clymer,*	4 *John Salter,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*	5 *George Logan,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*	6 *James Moore,*

YEAS.

7 *Richard Thomas,*
8 *Samuel Evans,*
9 *Richard Willing,*
10 *Townſend Whelen,*
11 *Adam Hubley,*
12 *Joſeph Lilley,*
13 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *William Lewis,*
2 *William Robinſon,* jun.
3 *Richard Peters,*
4 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
5 *John Chapman,*
6 *Samuel Foulke,*
7 *Valentine Upp,*
8 *Robert Ralſton,*
9 *Alexander Lowrey,*
10 *Joſeph Work,*
11 *James Clemſon,*
12 *Jacob Erb,*
13 *John Hopkins,*
14 *Michael Schmyſer,*
15 *William Mitchell,*
16 *David M'Clellan,*
17 *Joſeph Reed,*
18 *David Mitchell,*
19 *Thomas Beale,*
20 *Thomas Kennedy,*
21 *John Oliver,*
22 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
23 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
24 *Joſeph Sands,*
25 *Philip Kreemer,*
26 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
27 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
28 *Peter Burkhalter,*
29 *Peter Ealer,*
30 *John Piper,*
31 *Jacob Saylor,*
32 *Samuel Maclay,*
33 *John White,*
34 *William Findley,*
35 *James Barr,*
36 *John M'Dowell,*
37 *James Alliſon,*
38 *Alexander Wright,*
39 *John Flenniken,*
40 *Theophilus Philips,*
41 *John Gilchreeſt,*
42 *James M'Lene,*
43 *James M'Calmont,*
44 *Jacob Reiff,*
45 *Robert Lollar,*
46 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
47 *Peter Richards,*
48 *Jacob Miley,*
49 *Robert Clark,*
50 *John Carſon,*
51 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was determined in the negative; and the conſideration of the bill being reſumed,

It was moved by Mr. *Lewis,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,*

To amend the title, to read in the words following:

“ *An Act directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appointing electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chooſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.*”

Which was determined in the affirmative.

And the bill having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Tueſday, September 30, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed yeſterday on the letter from the Comptroller-General made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe proceeded to the election of Senators to repreſent this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, agreeably to the conſtitution adopted for the government of the ſaid ſtates; and the ballots being taken, it appeared that the Honorable *William Maclay* and *Robert Morris*, Eſquires, were duly elected.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to proceed in the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker having quitted the chair, the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent on the ſubject of the ſaid charges, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported, that the committee had made further progreſs in the enquiry, but not having compleated the ſame, requeſted leave to ſit again in the afternoon:

Which was granted.

Adjourned until half paſt three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from *Eleazer Oſwald* was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of ELEAZER OSWALD, of the city of *Philadelphia*, Printer,

Reſpectfully repreſenteth,

THAT as a profeſſional gentleman of well known abilities, on the floor of your honorable Houſe, has argued, on the ground of oppoſition, points of law, in juſtification of the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court, your memorialiſt therefore prays that your honorable Houſe would alſo grant him the benefit of Council learned in the law, to repreſent his caſe at the bar of your honorable Houſe.

And your memorialiſt, &c.

ELEAZER OSWALD.

Philadelphia, September 30, 1788.

And on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

And on the queſtion,—“ *Shall the prayer of the ſaid memorial be granted?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *M‘Dowell*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *James Clemſon,*
2 *John Hopkins,*
3 *David Mitchell,*

YEAS.

4 *Thomas Beale,*
5 *Thomas Kennedy,*
6 *John Oliver,*

YEAS.

7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *Peter Burkhalter,*
9 *John Piper,*
10 *Jacob Saylor,*
11 *John White,*
12 *William Findley,*
13 *James Barr,*
14 *John Irvine,*
15 *John M‘Dowell,*
16 *James Alliſon,*
17 *Alexander Wright,*
18 *John Flenniken,*
19 *Theophilus Philips,*
20 *John Gilchreeſt,*
21 *James M‘Lene,*
22 *James M‘Calmont,*
23 *Robert Lollar,*
24 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
25 *Peter Richards,*
26 *Jacob Miley,*
27 *Robert Clark,*
28 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Robinſon,* jun.
5 *John Salter,*
6 *George Logan,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Samuel Foulke,*
11 *Valentine Upp,*
12 *Robert Ralſton,*
13 *James Moore,*
14 *Richard Thomas,*
15 *Samuel Evans,*
16 *Richard Willing,*
17 *Townſend Whelen,*
18 *Alexander Lowrey,*
19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *Michael Schmyſer,*
23 *David M‘Clellan,*
24 *Joſeph Lilley,*
25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *Joſeph Heiſter,*
27 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
28 *Joſeph Sands,*
29 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
30 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
31 *Peter Ealer,*
32 *Jacob Reiff,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *John Paul Schott.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The Houſe then, agreeable to the order of this forenoon, reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole, to proceed in the enquiry into the truth of the charges exhibited in the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Speaker quitted the chair, and the Chairman was placed therein.

After ſome time ſpent in the diſcuſſion of the ſubject, the Chairman quitted the chair, and Mr. Speaker reſumed it.

The Chairman then reported a reſolution, being the reſult of the proceedings of the committee, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Wedneſday, October 1, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

On motion,

Ordered, That Mr. *Fitzſimons,* Mr. *Robinſon* and Mr. *Lollar,* be a committee to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch of the buſineſs unfiniſhed

finiſhed as they may deem neceſſary to be recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*,

Relative to the appointment of Commiſſioners to mark out a road from the river *Suſquehanna* to the higheſt boatable waters of the weſt branch of that river, and from thence to the neareſt good boatable waters on the *Allegeny* river, and from thence by the neareſt and beſt courſes to that tract of land reſerved by the ſtate of *Connecticut*, which lies between the weſtern line of this ſtate and *Lake Erie*, ſo as to croſs, as nearly as the ground will admit, the middle of the ſaid weſtern line of this ſtate.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act to alter and amend an act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated lands within this ſtate,” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

On the queſtion,—“ *Shall the ſame be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Peters* and Mr. *Clymer*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *Michael Schmyſer*,
2 *William Mitchell*,
3 *David M‘Clellan*,
4 *Joſeph Reed*,
5 *David Mitchell*,
6 *Thomas Beale*,
7 *Thomas Kennedy*,
8 *John Oliver*,
9 *Joſeph Sands*,
10 *Philip Kreemer*,
11 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
12 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
13 *Peter Burkhalter*,
14 *John Piper*,
15 *Jacob Saylor*,
16 *Samuel Maclay*,
17 *John White*,

YEAS.

18 *William Findley*,
19 *John M‘Dowell*,
20 *James Alliſon*,
21 *Alexander Wright*,
22 *John Flenniken*,
23 *Theophilus Philips*,
24 *John Gilchreeſt*,
25 *James M‘Lene*,
26 *James M‘Calmont*,
27 *Robert Lollar*,
28 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
29 *Peter Richards*,
30 *Jacob Miley*,
31 *Robert Clark*,
32 *John Carſon*,
33 *John Paul Schott*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Robinſon*, jun.
5 *George Logan*,
6 *Richard Peters*,
7 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
8 *John Chapman*,
9 *Samuel Foulke*,
10 *Valentine Upp*,

NAYS.

11 *Robert Ralſton*,
12 *James Moore*,
13 *Richard Thomas*,
14 *Samuel Evans*,
15 *Richard Willing*,
16 *Townſend Whelen*,
17 *Alexander Lowrey*,
18 *Adam Hubley*,
19 *Joſeph Work*,
20 *James Clemſon*,

NAYS.	NAYS.
21 *Jacob Erb,*	24 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
22 *John Hopkins,*	25 *Jacob Reiff,*
23 *Joſeph Lilley,*	26 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was determined in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled, *An Act to make the bills of credit of this commonwealth,* " *emitted by an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth of* March, Anno " Domini *one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-five, receivable in payment of* " *all public taxes,*" was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled " *An Act to regulate auctions and vendues;*" and having further debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Thurſday, October 2, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A petition from *George Fowler* and *Edward Butler* was read, together with petitions from 200 inhabitants of the county of *Waſhington,* praying that *Chartier's* creek may not be declared a public highway.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Fitzſimons,* in the following words, *viz.*

" Whereas the ſevere exaction of the heavy fines incurred under former " ſyſtems of militia laws is a great ſource of vexation and oppreſſion to the " poor and neceſſitous, without any adequate improvement of the finances of " the ſtate:

" *Reſolved,* That the conſideration of a general exoneration of the fines " which have been ſo incurred be recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of " Aſſembly."

It was moved by Mr. *M'Lene,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To ſtrike out the words, " *a general,*" in the foregoing reſolution, and, in lieu thereof, to inſert the word " *an.*"

And on the queſtion,—" *Will the Houſe agree to the amendment?*"—

It was carried in the affirmative, and the motion, as amended, adopted by the Houſe.

The committee appointed *September* 8th, on the petitions of *James Rumſey, John Fitch* and *Henry Voigt,* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed on the petition of *Elizabeth Kutz* made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee on ways and means made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee on ways and means having had referred to them the requiſitions of Congreſs for the preſent year, an act of the 11th *June* reſpecting penſioners, and a reſolution of this Houſe, directing them to "report the "beſt and ſpeedieſt mode of procuring and paying to the order of Council "the ſum of *nine hundred and fifty pounds*, to diſcharge the expence which "may ariſe in effecting a purchaſe of the lands on *Lake Erie* from the Indians,"

Report, That the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, by their requiſitions for the preſent year, require from the ſtates reſpectively the payment of their arrears on the exiſting ſpecie requiſitions, beſides the ſum of one million ſix hundred and eighty-ſix thouſand five hundred and forty-one dollars and twelve-ninetieths in indents, in which requſiition the quota of *Pennſylvania* is ſtated to be (in indents) two hundred and thirty thouſand ſix hundred and ninety-eight dollars and eighteen ninetieths, for one year's intereſt of the domeſtic debt of the United States.

Upon this the committee have to remark, that as this ſtate has paid a conſiderable ſum beyond her quota of the ſpecie requiſitions to the end of the year 1786, and appears to be a creditor of the United States for a ſum beyond her quota of the aggregate debt, it would be improper to make any further ſpecie payments on that account.

That as the ſtate has not yet authoriſed the payment of indents required by the requiſitions of the laſt and preſent year, it is proper that ſo much of the ſaid requiſitions, as reſpects the payment of this ſtate's quota of indents, ought to be adopted, and a law paſſed for that purpoſe.

The act of Congreſs of the 8th *June* 1788, among other things, directs, that no "perſon ſhall be entitled to a penſion, as an invalid, who ſhall "not before the 11th day of *December* next make application therefor, and "produce the requiſite certificates and evidence to entitle them thereto."

The committee find, that the ſum propoſed in the reſolution of this Houſe to be paid to the order of Council being for a purpoſe highly beneficial to the ſtate, immediate meaſures ſhould be taken to authoriſe the payment thereof.

In conformity with all which the committee offer the following reſolutions:

Reſolved, That the requiſitions of the United States in Congreſs aſſembled, for the years 1787 and 1788, ſo far as reſpects the payment of this ſtate's quota of indents, for her proportion of the intereſt on the domeſtic debt, be ſpecially recommended to the next General Aſſembly.

The committee find, that the act of Aſſembly of this ſtate authoriſes the Judges of the Supreme Court to receive applications for penſions till the 10th day of *March* next, and are of opinion that the Houſe ſhould take order to prevent the granting any penſions ſubſequent to the period preſcribed by the act of Congreſs.

Reſolved, That the Judges of the Supreme Court be furniſhed with a copy of the act of Congreſs of the 11th day of *June* laſt, reſpecting penſioners, and that it be recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

Reſolved, That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill, authorſing the State Treaſurer to pay to the order of the Supreme Executive Council, a ſum not exceeding *one thouſand two hundred pounds,* out of the duties and impoſts ariſing on goods, wares and merchandize, imported into this ſtate under the acts of 20th *September* 1785, and 15th *March* 1787, for defraying the expence of purchaſing the lands on *Lake Erie* from the Indians.

Ordered, That Mr. *Peters,* Mr. *Evans* and Mr. *Findley* be a committee, to bring in a bill agreeably to the third reſolution contained in the foregoing report.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe, reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act for the better ſecuring the public creditors of this ſtate,*" which was read the firſt time, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion,

Ordered, That to-morrow be aſſigned for the conſideration of the report on the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald,* and that it be the order for the day.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned* "*in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant the ſum of* *to* "*Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth,*" was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to incorporate the members of the religious* "*ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, "*in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time: Whereupon

A petition from divers *German* members of the Roman Catholic ſociety worſhipping at the church of St. *Mary*'s was read, remonſtrating againſt the ſaid bill, without a previous diſcuſſion of certain amendments to ſaid bill, ſet forth in the petition, and praying the ſame may not be paſſed into a law. It was then,

On motion,

Ordered, That the conſideration of the bill be poſtponed, and that the ſaid petition be referred to Mr. *Clymer,* Mr. *Chapman* and Mr. *M'Lene,* to report thereon.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the payment of an additional ſum of money* "*to* Gunning Bedford, *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal* "*arch in the city of* Philadelphia," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act for* "*the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of* "*taxes;*" and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *John Franklin*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The committee appointed for the purpoſe reported a bill, entituled "*An* "*Act to authorize the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer* "*for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing lands on* Lake Erie "*of the Indians*," which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled "*An Act to* "*make the bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by an act of General* "*Aſſembly paſſed the ſixteenth day of* March, Anno Domini *one thouſand ſeven* "*hundred and eighty-five, receivable in payment of all public taxes*."

And in debating the following paragraph, *viz.*

"Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the repreſentatives "of the freemen of the commonwealth of *Pennſylvania*, in General Aſſem- "bly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That the ſaid bills of credit, "emitted in purſuance of the act of Aſſembly aforeſaid, ſhall be received "in payment of all and every the debts, duties, taxes and demands, which "ſhall be aſſeſſed and laid, or which ſhall become due or payable, either to "the Treaſurer of the State or to any county Treaſurer or Collector, or to "the Overſeers of the Poor of the city of *Philadelphia*, or of any borough "or townſhip in this ſtate, or to the Wardens of the city of *Philadelphia*, "or to the Street-commiſſioners of the ſame city, or to any other public "officer or officers whatſoever, for or on the account of this ſtate, or of "any county, or of the city of *Philadelphia*, or any borough or townſhip "within this ſtate, according to the value which the ſaid bills on the face of "them purport to be of, reckoning *ſeven ſhillings and ſix-pence* to be equal "to one *Spaniſh* ſilver milled dollar."

On the queſtion—"*Will the Houſe agree to the ſame?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *M'Lene* and Mr. *Piper*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell*,
2 *Thomas Beale*,
3 *Thomas Kennedy*,
4 *John Oliver*,
5 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
6 *Peter Burkhalter*,
7 *John Piper*,
8 *William Findley*,
9 *John M'Dowell*,
10 *James Alliſon*,
11 *John Flenniken*,
12 *Theophilus Philips*,
13 *John Gilchreeſt*,
14 *James M'Lene*,
15 *James M'Calmont*,
16 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe*,
17 *Jacob Miley*,
18 *Robert Clark*,
19 *John Carſon*,
20 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William* [illegible]

NAYS.

5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *George Logan*,
8 *Richard Peters*,
9 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
10 *John Chapman*,
11 *Samuel Foulke*,
12 *Valentine Upp*,
13 *Robert Ralſton*,
14 *James Moore*,
15 *Richard Thomas*,
16 *Samuel Evans*,
17 *Richard Willing*,
18 *Townſend Whelen*,
19 *Alexander Lowrey*,
20 *Adam Hubley*,
21 *Joſeph Work*,

NAYS.

22 *Jacob Erb*,
23 *John Hopkins*,
24 *Michael Schmyſer*,
25 *William Mitchell*,
26 *David M‘Clellan*,
27 *Joſeph Reed*,
28 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
29 *Gabriel Heiſter*,
30 *Joſeph Sands*,
31 *Philip Kreemer*,
32 *Peter Trexler*, jun.
33 *Peter Ealer*,
34 *Jacob Saylor*,
35 *John White*,
36 *Jacob Reiff*,
37 *Robert Lollar*,
38 *Peter Richards*.

So it was determined in the negative.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act, entituled* “ An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the river *Coneſtogoe*, in the county of *Lancaſter*,” was read the ſecond time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be tranſcribed, and in the mean time printed for public conſideration.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act for granting to* John Hewſon *and* Robert Taylor, *callicoe printers and bleachers, the ſum of* pounds, *as an encouragement to them to carry on in as extenſive a manner as poſſible ſaid branches of buſineſs*,” was read the third time, and in part debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That the further conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to the act, entituled* “ An Act to enforce the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth;” and having fully debated the ſame by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery*;” and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *A Supplement to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “ An Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned,” was read the third time; and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled “ *An Act to appoint Commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain Commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the ninth*

“ *day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other Commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly, paſſed the twentieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the Managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge,*” was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The Houſe reſumed the conſideration of the bill, entituled “ *An Act to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton;*” and the ſame having been fully debated by paragraphs,

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Friday, October 3, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

A memorial from a number of the Juſtices of the Peace of the city and county of *Philadelphia* was read, as follows, *viz.*

To the Honorable the REPRESENTATIVES *of the* FREEMEN *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA, *in* GENERAL ASSEMBLY *met.*

The MEMORIAL of the ſubſcribers, JUSTICES of the PEACE in and for the city and county of *Philadelphia,*

Reſpectfully ſheweth,

THAT your memorialiſts have obſerved, by the debates of the General Aſſembly of the 19th ultimo, as publiſhed by *Thomas Lloyd,* that certain charges are exhibited againſt the magiſtrates by *William Lewis* and *George Clymer,* Eſquires, members of your honorable Houſe:

That we are charged, generally, by thoſe members, as being mean, rapacious wretches, purſuing every infamous conduct that can be deviſed, to prey upon our neighbours:

That under ſuch charges, which we deem ungenerous and unmerited, we feel ourſelves grievouſly wounded in our reputations, not only as magiſtrates, but as men and citizens:

We do, each for himſelf, deny the accuſation; and therefore, if any magiſtrate has been guilty of ſuch unworthy conduct as thoſe members have repreſented, the laws of our country are ſufficient, and to thoſe laws we are amenable.

Your memorialiſts are confident that your honorable Houſe will not be impreſſed with ſentiments ſo unfavourable to the magiſtracy, by ſuch general and unſupported aſſertions.

PLUNKET FLEESON,
WILLIAM RUSH,
ISAAC HOWELL,
JOSEPH WHARTON,
WILLIAM POLLARD,
WILLIAM CRAIG,

ALEXANDER TOD,
ROBERT M'KNIGHT,
JACOB WEAVER,
WILLIAM COATS,
SAMUEL WHARTON,
JONATHAN PENROSE.

Philadelphia, 2d October, 1788.

Ordered to lie on the table.

A letter from the Honorable *Robert Morris* and *William Maclay*, Eſquires, was preſented to the chair, and read, as follows, *viz.*

SIR,

WE have this day been honored with the receipt of your letters, announcing the election which the General Aſſembly have been pleaſed to make of us as Senators, to ſerve this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States; and indicating, that it would be agreeable to have our acceptance of the appointment acknowledged in a letter to the Speaker.

Senſible as we are of the diſtinguiſhed confidence repoſed in the perſons to whom this important truſt is committed, and feeling, as we ought, the honor which the Houſe has conferred on us by that high degree of confidence, we do not heſitate to accept of the appointment. Permit us at the ſame time to declare, that we do it in the hope of being ſerviceable to our country. The high ſtation to which we are choſen will afford us the opportunities of meriting the approbation of the General Aſſembly, and of all our fellow-citizens. It ſhall be our ſtudy to avail ourſelves of thoſe opportunities, by a faithful diſcharge of our duty.

We have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient and humble ſervants,

ROBERT MORRIS,
WILLIAM MACLAY.

To the Honorable THOMAS MIFFLIN, *Eſquire,*
Speaker of the General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania.

A petition from *Chriſtian Holland*, an inſolvent debtor, confined in the gaol of the city and county of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying to be releaſed from his confinement; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to Mr. *Will*, Mr. *Salter* and Mr. *Kreemer*, to report thereon.

The committee appointed *September* 9th, on the petition of *Benjamin Moore*, made report, which was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A motion was made by Mr. *Clymer*, ſeconded by Mr. *Schott*, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

"Whereas the various proviſions neceſſary to the prudent and equitable "ſettlement of the conteſted *Pennſylvania* and *Connecticut* claims to lands "within the county of *Luzerne* have demanded greater conſideration than this "Houſe have had it in their power to beſtow, yet, highly ſenſible of the "importance to the ſtate of a ſpeedy termination of thoſe diſputes:

"*Reſolved*, That this ſubject be recommended to the early and ſerious con-"ſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly."

Agreeably to the order of the day, the report of the committee of the whole, on the memorial of *Eleazer Oſwald*, read *September* 30th, was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

Reſolved, That the charges exhibited by Colonel *Eleazer Oſwald* againſt the Juſtices of the Supreme Court, and the teſtimony given in ſupport of them, are not a ſufficient ground of impeachment.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Clymer,* ſeconded by Mr. *Peters,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the ſaid report, in order to introduce the following reſolution, *viz.*

" *Reſolved,* That this Houſe having in a committee of the whole gone into " a full examination of the charges exhibited by *Eleazer Oſwald,* of arbitrary " and oppreſſive proceedings in the Juſtices of the Supreme Court againſt the " ſaid *Eleazer Oſwald,* are of opinion that the charges are unſupported by " the teſtimony adduced, and, conſequently, that there is no juſt cauſe for " impeaching the ſaid Juſtices."

Which was carried in the affirmative.

It was then moved by Mr. *Findley,* ſeconded by Mr. *Kennedy,*

To poſtpone the conſideration of the reſolution moved by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters,* in order to ſubſtitute the following, *viz.*

" Whereas the conſtitution of this commonwealth hath expreſly ſecured " to every citizen the right of trial by jury in criminal proſecutions; there- " fore uſages, however ancient, or from whatever quarter they may have been " introduced, cannot ſuperſede this poſitive right.

" Although the courts of juſtice, for their own defence and the protec- " tion of the courſe of juſtice, muſt neceſſarily poſſeſs the power of com- " pelling obedience to their authority, as well as peace, order and decency " in their preſence, yet this is no more than that right of repelling force by " force, neceſſary for the exiſtence and uſefulneſs of the courts of juſtice, " which is analogous to that right of ſelf-defence that every man naturally " enjoys; yet, nevertheleſs, ſuch freedom of writing or ſpeaking, as is only " calculated to diſparage the perſons of the judges, or to influence the cauſes " depending before the courts, and not read or uttered in the preſence of the " ſaid courts, although puniſhable by indictment, ought not to be turned " into contempts, by conſtruction or implication, at the diſcretion of the " judges: Therefore

" *Reſolved,* That the proceedings of the Supreme Court againſt Colonel " *Eleazer Oſwald,* in puniſhing him by fine and impriſonment at their diſcre- " tion for a conſtructive or implied contempt, not committed in the preſence " of the court, nor againſt any officer or order thereof, but for writing and " publiſhing improperly, or indecently, reſpecting a cauſe depending before " the Supreme Court, and reſpecting ſome of the Judges of ſaid court, was " an unconſtitutional exerciſe of judicial power, and ſets an alarming prece- " dent, of the moſt dangerous conſequence to the citizens of this common- " wealth.

" And whereas, though the conſtitution of this commonwealth declares " the printing preſſes be open for the examination of every department of " government, yet the legiſlature hath hitherto neglected to define the nature " of contempts, or direct the nature or extent of their puniſhment, conſe- " quently the juſtices have been left to act under the influence of arbitrary and " illegal uſages: Therefore

" *Reſolved,* That it be ſpecially recommended to the enſuing General Aſ- " ſembly to define the nature and extent of contempts, and direct their pu- " niſhments."

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe agree to the poſtponement, for the purpoſe aforeſaid?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Fitzſimons* and Mr. *Findley*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *John Oliver,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *William Findley,*
10 *James Barr,*
11 *John Irvine,*
12 *John M‘Dowell,*
13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Flenniken,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *John Gilchreeſt,*
18 *James M‘Lene,*
19 *James M‘Calmont,*
20 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
21 *Jacob Miley,*
22 *Robert Clark.*

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*
15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *David M‘Clellan,*
25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29 *Peter Burkhalter,*
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *Robert Lollar,*
33 *John Carſon,*
34 *John Paul Schott,*
35 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

And the reſolution propoſed by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters* recurring,

On the queſtion,—“ *Will the Houſe adopt the ſame?*”—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Kennedy* and Mr. *Peters*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *George Clymer,*
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons,*
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer,*
4 *William Lewis,*
5 *William Robinſon,* jun.
6 *John Salter,*
7 *Richard Peters,*
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop,*
9 *John Chapman,*
10 *Valentine Upp,*
11 *Robert Ralſton,*
12 *James Moore,*
13 *Richard Thomas,*
14 *Samuel Evans,*

YEAS.

15 *Richard Willing,*
16 *Townſend Whelen,*
17 *Alexander Lowrey,*
18 *Adam Hubley,*
19 *Joſeph Work,*
20 *James Clemſon,*
21 *Jacob Erb,*
22 *John Hopkins,*
23 *Michael Schmyſer,*
24 *David M'Clellan,*

YEAS.

25 *Joſeph Reed,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Peter Trexler,* jun.
28 *Thomas Mawhorter,*
29 *Peter Burkhalter,*
30 *Peter Ealer,*
31 *Jacob Reiff,*
32 *John Carſon,*
33 *John Paul Schott,*
34 *Hugh Daviſon.*

NAYS.

1 *David Mitchell,*
2 *Thomas Beale,*
3 *Thomas Kennedy,*
4 *John Oliver,*
5 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
6 *Joſeph Sands,*
7 *Philip Kreemer,*
8 *John Piper,*
9 *William Findley,*
10 *James Barr,*
11 *John Irvine,*
12 *John M'Dowell,*

NAYS.

13 *James Alliſon,*
14 *Alexander Wright,*
15 *John Flenniken,*
16 *Theophilus Philips,*
17 *John Gilchreeſt,*
18 *James M'Lene,*
19 *James M'Calmont,*
20 *Robert Lollar,*
21 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
22 *Jacob Miley,*
23 *Robert Clark.*

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to* "*draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of* "*purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie," was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-"ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his* "*ſervices to this commonwealth,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The bill, entituled "*An Act for rewarding the perſon or perſons concerned* "*in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

A tranſcript of the taxes aſſeſſed on the inhabitants and taxable property within the county of *Weſtmoreland,* for the year 1788, was preſented to the chair, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned until four o'clock, P. M.

Eodem

Eodem Die, P. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* “ An Act to alter and amend “ an act, entituled “ *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unappropriated* “ *lands within this ſtate.*”

An ACT *for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie.

An ACT *to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton.*

An ACT *to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of taxes.*

An ACT *in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery.*

An ACT *to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the 9th day of* March, 1771, *were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the 20th day of* September, 1765, *were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge.*

An ACT *for veſting a lot of ground, therein deſcribed, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* Dickenſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland.

An ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* James, *at* Perkiomen, *in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and the county of* Montgomery.

The member appointed to collect the fines from the members for non-attendance, preſented to the chair a receipt from the Treaſurer of the *Pennſylvania* Hoſpital for the ſum of *fourteen pounds ten ſhillings,* being the amount of fines by him collected.

The report on the petition of *James Rumſey* and others, read *October* 2d, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That it be referred to the conſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe.

Adjourned until nine o'clock to-morrow, A. M.

Saturday, October 4, 1788. A. M.

The Houſe met purſuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed *October* 1ſt, to inſpect the files of the Houſe, and report ſuch of the buſineſs unfiniſhed as they may deem neceſſary to be recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee appointed to report on the unfiniſhed buſineſs, offer the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the bill, entituled "*An Act for erecting part of the county* "*of* Cumberland *into a ſeparate county;*"

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable aliens to purchaſe and hold real eſtates* "*within this commonwealth;*"

The bill, entituled "*An Act to enable the Land-Officers to iſſue re-locating* "*warrants in the caſes therein deſcribed;*"

The report of the committee on the memorial of the Reverend Dr. *William Smith;*

The report on the eſtabliſhment of an aſſay-office;

The report on the petition of *Evan Owen;*

The petition of *Frances Budden;*

The petition of *John M'Calmont;*

The petitions from the inhabitants of *Huntingdon* county, reſpecting the county lines;

The petitions for and againſt declaring *Aughwick* and *Standing-Stone* creeks public highways; be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding General Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report——

That there is due to *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* for ſundry printing work done for the General Aſſembly, from *March* 28th, 1788, to *October* 3d enſuing, *forty-one pounds eleven ſhillings.*

To *Thomas Bradford,* for printing the laws to this day, *one hundred and ninety-ſeven pounds one ſhilling and nine-pence.*

To *Melchior Steiner,* for printing in *German* 1000 copies of the reſolves reſpecting the calling of the State Convention, *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *Hall* and *Sellers,* for printing the minutes of the firſt and ſecond ſeſſions of the Twelfth General Aſſembly, *two hundred and fifty-three pounds twelve ſhillings.*

To *Thomas Lloyd,* for four volumes of the debates of the General Aſſembly, *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *William Spottſwood,* for ſerving the General Aſſembly with ſix ſetts of the *Pennſylvania Herald,* from 30th *September,* 1787, to 30th *January,* 1788, four months, *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

To *William Woodhouſe,* for ſtationary, &c. delivered for the uſe of the General Aſſembly, from *June* 1ſt, 1787, to *October* 3d, 1788, *forty-five pounds one ſhilling and ſeven-pence halfpenny.*

To *Michael Billmeyer,* for printing the bills for conſideration and the minutes, in the *German* language, of the ſecond ſeſſion of the Twelfth General Aſſembly, *one hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings and eight-pence.*

Reſolved, That the Speaker draw an order on the State Treaſurer, in favor of *Dunlap* and *Claypoole,* in full of their account, for *forty-one pounds eleven ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Bradford*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and ninety-ſeven pounds one ſhilling and nine-pence.*

In favor of *Melchior Steiner*, in full of his account, for *four pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *Hall* and *Sellers*, in full of their account, for *two hundred and fifty-three pounds twelve ſhillings.*

In favor of *Thomas Lloyd*, in full of his account, for *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *William Spottſwood*, in full of his account, for *three pounds ten ſhillings.*

In favor of *William Woodhouſe*, in full of his account, for *forty-five pounds one ſhilling and ſeven-pence half-penny.*

In favor of *Michael Billmeyer*, in full of his account, for *one hundred and twenty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings and eight-pence.*

The committee to whom was referred the petition of a number of the inhabitants of *Heidleberg* townſhip, complaining of the diviſion line between the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin* run by three of the commiſſioners appointed, *viz. Thomas Clark, Joſhua Elder* and *John Clendenen*, made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That there is not ſufficient cauſe ſhewn for invalidating the act of the three commiſſioners, eſtabliſhing the diviſion line run between the counties of *Lancaſter* and *Dauphin.*

The report of the committee, read *September* 27th laſt, on the memorial of Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, was read the ſecond time, and adopted, as follows, *viz.*

The committee, to whom was referred the memorial of Meſſieurs *Turnbull, Marmie* and Company, and the ſeveral papers accompanying the ſame, tranſmitted by the Executive Council, report——

That enquiring into the circumſtances of this caſe, they find the memorialiſts had contracted with the Board of Treaſury of the United States for the ſupply of the troops on the weſtern frontiers, and in *March* 1787 received, in part payment of the ſupplies, two warrants upon the Treaſurer of the United States, which were exchanged for orders on the Treaſurer of *Pennſylvania*, one for five, the other for three thouſand dollars ſpecie; that in lieu of the firſt named warrant, they accepted from the ſaid Treaſurer his orders on ſeveral County Treaſurers, part of which orders ſtill remain unſatiſfied, and of the part received, ſome of it was in paper in a depreciated ſtate, and ſome in ſpecie, but for which the memorialiſts were obliged to allow a diſcount:

That the other warrant for three thouſand dollars, though preſented ſo long ago as the month of *June*, 1787, at which time the Treaſurer engaged for the payment, the ſtate having credit for the amount with the United States, is yet altogether unſatiſfied; and that the memorialiſts, having given up their original order on the Treaſurer of the United States for this order on the Treaſurer of *Pennſylvania*, they are left without remedy againſt the United States.

The committee are fully ſenſible of the great hardſhip or injuſtice done to the memorialſtis, as well on account of the loſs ariſing from the payments made them in depreciated paper in the one caſe, as in the total failure of payment in the other, and ſincerely wiſh they could point out to the Houſe any mode of relief; but conſidering this caſe as coming within the executive department of government, they cannot recommend any legiſlative interference therein, other than the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be furniſhed with a copy of this report.

The report of the committee, read *September* 30th laſt, on the letter from the Honorable the Vice-Preſident, together with the letter from the Comptroller-General, was read the ſecond time: Whereupon

Reſolved, That the Supreme Executive Council be requeſted to apply to the Congreſs of the United States, to continue the preſent commiſſioner for ſettling the accounts of this ſtate with the United States for ſix months beyond the time, at which his preſent appointment ſhall expire.

A motion was made by Mr. *Findley*, ſeconded by Mr. *Clymer*, as follows, *viz.*

" Whereas the making a good central road from *Philadelphia* to the weſtern
" extremity of this ſtate would greatly promote, not only the ſale of
" public lands, but alſo the population, agriculture and commerce of this
" commonwealth, as well as facilitate the defence thereof, and alſo contribute
" greatly to the accommodation of the United States:

" *Reſolved*, That the Supreme Executive Council be, and they hereby are
" authoriſed to appoint   Commiſſioners, to examine
" and mark out the neareſt and beſt track for a road from   ,
" on the *Suſquehanna* river, to the higheſt ſufficient boatable waters of the
" weſt branch of that river, and from thence to the neareſt good boatable
" waters of the *Allegheny* river, and from thence by the neareſt and beſt
" courſes to that tract of land reſerved by the ſtate of *Connecticut*, which
" lies betwixt the weſtern line of this ſtate and *Lake Erie*, ſo as to croſs, as
" nearly as the ground will admit, the middle of the ſaid weſtern line of
" this ſtate.

" *Reſolved*, That the Commiſſioners ſo appointed ſhall receive
" *ſhillings* per day, beſides the expence of Pilots, to be paid out of the furpluſage
" of the fees received in the land-office, which remains after paying
" the ſalaries of the Land-Officers."

Ordered, That it be ſpecially recommended to the conſideration of the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

The committee of accounts made report, which was read; and on motion, and by ſpecial order, the ſame was read the ſecond time, as follows, *viz.*

The committee of accounts beg leave to report——

That they have received of *David Rittenhouſe*, Eſquire, State Treaſurer, the ſum of *four thouſand nine hundred and twenty-four pounds ſeven ſhillings and three-pence*, in bills of credit of this commonwealth, emitted by act of Aſſembly paſſed *March* 16th, 1785, which he hath received of the Truſtees of the Loan-Office, *viz.*

800	bills of *twenty ſhillings* each	£ 800	0	0
1219	ditto *fifteen ſhillings* each	914	5	0
2700	ditto *ten ſhillings* each	1350	0	0
3200	ditto *five ſhillings* each	800	0	0
2000	ditto *two ſhillings and ſix-pence* each	250	0	0
4401	ditto *one ſhilling and ſix-pence* each	330	1	6
10001	ditto *nine-pence* each	375	0	9
8400	ditto *three-pence* each	105	0	0
	Making in the whole,	£ 4924	7	3

And they have alſo received the ſum of three thouſand five hundred and ninety-two dollars and three fourths of a dollar in treaſury notes, and *three hundred and fifty-ſeven pounds* in bills of credit, commonly called ſtate iſland money; all of which ſeveral ſums they have examined, counted, burnt and deſtroyed, according to law.

The report of the committee, read *October* 2d, on the petition of *John Franklin*, was read the ſecond time.

Ordered, That the conſideration thereof be poſtponed.

On motion,

Reſolved, That the Speaker be directed to draw on the Treaſurer of this ſtate, in favor of *Peter Z. Lloyd*, Clerk, and *Jacob Shallus*, Aſſiſtant Clerk of the General Aſſembly, for the ſum of *fifty pounds* each, as a full compenſation for their extra ſervices.

In favor of *James Martin* and *Joſeph Fry*, for *twenty pounds* each, as a full compenſation for their extra ſervices as Serjeant-at-Arms and Door-keeper to the General Aſſembly.

A motion was made by Mr. *M‘Lene*, ſeconded by Mr. *M‘Dowell*,

That the letters from the Preſidents of the Conventions of the ſtates of *Maſſachuſetts*, *New-York* and *Virginia*, incloſing the ratifications of the fœderal conſtitution by the ſaid ſtates, with the amendments thereto by them propoſed, and the letter from the Preſident of the Convention of the ſtate of *North-Carolina*, incloſing the proceedings of the ſaid Convention, be ſpecially recommended to the ſucceeding Houſe of Aſſembly.

And on the queſtion,—"*Will the Houſe adopt the ſaid motion?*"—the Yeas and Nays were called by Mr. *Clymer* and Mr. *Peters*, and were as follow, *viz.*

YEAS.

1 *William Mitchell*,
2 *Joſeph Reed*,
3 *David Mitchell*,
4 *Thomas Beale*,
5 *Thomas Kennedy*,
6 *John Oliver*,
7 *Joſeph Heiſter*,
8 *Joſeph Sands*,
9 *Philip Kreemer*,
10 *Thomas Mawhorter*,
11 *Peter Burkhalter*,
12 *John Piper*,

YEAS.

13 *William Findley*,
14 *James Barr*,
15 *John M‘Dowell*,
16 *James Alliſon*,
17 *John Flenniken*,
18 *Theophilus Philips*,
19 *John Gilchreeſt*,
20 *James M‘Lene*,
21 *James M‘Calmont*,
22 *Robert Lollar*,
23 *Jacob Miley*,
24 *Robert Clark*.

NAYS.

1 *George Clymer*,
2 *Thomas Fitzſimons*,
3 *Jacob Hiltzheimer*,
4 *William Will*,
5 *William Robinſon*, jun.
6 *John Salter*,
7 *Richard Peters*,
8 *Gerardus Wynkoop*,
9 *John Chapman*,

NAYS.

10 *Samuel Foulke*,
11 *Valentine Upp*,
12 *Robert Ralſton*,
13 *James Moore*,
14 *Richard Thomas*,
15 *Samuel Evans*,
16 *Richard Willing*,
17 *Townſend Whelen*,
18 *Alexander Lowrey*,

NAYS.

19 *Adam Hubley,*
20 *Joſeph Work,*
21 *James Clemſon,*
22 *Jacob Erb,*
23 *John Hopkins,*
24 *Michael Schmyſer,*
25 *David M'Clellan,*
26 *Joſeph Lilley,*
27 *Gabriel Heiſter,*
28 *Peter Trexler,* jun.

NAYS.

29 *Peter Ealer,*
30 *Jacob Saylor,*
31 *Samuel Maclay,*
32 *John White,*
33 *John Irvine,*
34 *Jacob Reiff,*
35 *Benjamin Rittenhouſe,*
36 *John Carſon,*
37 *John Paul Schott,*
38 *Hugh Daviſon.*

So it was carried in the negative.

The bill, entituled " *A Supplement to an act, entituled,* " An Act for regulating the fiſheries in the river *Coneſtogoe,* in the county of *Lancaſter,*" was read the third time, and debated by paragraphs.

Ordered, That it be engroſſed, for the purpoſe of being enacted into a law.

The following bills having been brought in engroſſed, were ſeverally compared at the table, enacted into laws, and the Speaker directed to ſign the ſame, *viz.*

An ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia.

An ACT *to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to the act, entituled* " An Act to enforce the due " collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth.

An ACT *for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies.*

An ACT *for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell.

An ACT *for rewarding the perſons concerned in the apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry.*

An ACT *to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth.*

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the " fiſheries in the river *Coneſtogoe,* in the county of *Lancaſter.*"

A SUPPLEMENT *to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* " An Act " for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the diſtrict " of *Southwark,* for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out therein " public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets and roads " as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other uſes and " purpoſes therein mentioned."

An ACT *directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appointing Electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chuſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.*

On motion,

Reſolved, That one thouſand copies of the laſt mentioned act be printed, and tranſmitted to the Prothonotaries of the reſpective counties of this commonwealth, for the information of the citizens thereof.

The committee appointed to affix the ſeal to the laws, reported that they had affixed the ſeal to the following laws, *viz.*

I. *An* ACT *for allowing a further time to diſtribute the donation lands promiſed to the troops of this commonwealth.*

II. *An* ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of Roman Catholics belonging to the congregation of St.* Mary*'s church, in the city of* Philadelphia.

III. *An* ACT *to compenſate the ſervices of Lieutenant-Colonel* Francis Mentges, *in inſpecting the militia of the ſtate, and the public arms and ſtores.*

IV. *An* ACT *for the relief of the ſuffering inhabitants of the townſhips of* Wayne *and* Derry, *in the county of* Cumberland.

V. *An* ACT *to alter and amend ſo much of the ſeveral impoſt laws of this ſtate, as confines the allowing of draw-backs on goods exported to the original importers thereof, and obliges the exporter to produce certificates of the landing of ſuch goods.*

VI. *An* ACT *to ſuſpend, for ſix months, the powers of the commiſſioners of the ſeveral counties of this ſtate to make ſale of unſeated lands for non-payment of taxes.*

VII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Preſbyterian church of* Middle Octorara, *in* Bart *townſhip, in the county of* Lancaſter.

VIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* "An Act to divide *Waſhington* county into election diſtricts."

IX. *An* ACT *for erecting certain parts of the counties of* Weſtmoreland *and* Waſhington *into a ſeparate county.*

X. *An* ACT *to erect the townſhips of* Penns *and* Beaver, *in the county of* Northumberland, *into a ſeparate diſtrict, and alter the place of holding elections in the third diſtrict in the ſaid county of* Northumberland.

XI. *An* ACT *to alter certain election diſtricts within the counties of* Dauphin *and* Franklin, *and to eſtabliſh new ones therein.*

XII. *An* ACT *for veſting a lot of ground, herein deſcribed, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected and made, in the Truſtees of* Dickinſon *college, in the borough of* Carliſle, *in the county of* Cumberland.

XIII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the Epiſcopal congregation of St.* James, *at* Perkiomen, *in the townſhip of* New-Providence, *and county of* Montgomery.

XIV. *An* ACT *to authoriſe the Supreme Executive Council to draw on the State Treaſurer for a ſum of money, for defraying the expence of purchaſing of the Indians lands on* Lake Erie.

XV. *An* ACT *to eſtabliſh a Board of Wardens for the port of* Philadelphia, *and for other purpoſes therein mentioned.*

XVI. *An* ACT *directing the times, places and manner of holding elections for Repreſentatives of this ſtate in the Congreſs of the United States, and for appointing Electors, on the part of this ſtate, for chuſing a Preſident and Vice-Preſident of the United States.*

XVII. *An* ACT *in aid of an act of the* Delaware *ſtate, for the ſettlement of the accounts of the* Wilmington *lottery.*

XVIII. *An* ACT *to appoint commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of certain commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the ninth day of* March, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-one, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of certain other commiſſioners, who, by a certain act of Aſſembly paſſed the twentieth day of* September, *one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-five, were appointed to ſettle the accounts of the managers of a lottery which had been ſet up and drawn, for the purpoſe of erecting a bridge over* Skippack *creek, in the then county of* Philadelphia (*now* Montgomery) *and to receive voluntary donations and ſubſcriptions for perfecting ſaid bridge.*

XIX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* “ An Act to alter and
“ amend an act, entituled “ *An Act for granting and diſpoſing of the unap-*
“ *propriated lands within this ſtate.*”

XX. *An* ACT *to recompence* John Hague, *for introducing into this ſtate a uſeful machine for carding cotton.*

XXI. *An* ACT *to exonerate the frontier inhabitants of* Waſhington *county from the payment of taxes.*

XXII. *An* ACT *for the payment of an additional ſum of money to* Gunning Bedford *and others, for their ſervices in erecting a triumphal arch in the city of* Philadelphia.

XXIII. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* “ An Act to enforce
“ the due collection and payment of taxes within this commonwealth.”

XXIV. *An* ACT *for the better aſcertaining and making good loſſes of public monies by robberies.*

XXV. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act of General Aſſembly, entituled* “ An
“ Act for erecting the ſouthern ſuburbs of the city of *Philadelphia* into the
“ diſtrict of *Southwark*, for making the ſtreets and roads already laid out
“ therein public roads and highways, and for regulating ſuch other ſtreets
“ and roads as the inhabitants thereof may hereafter lay out, and for other
“ uſes and purpoſes therein mentioned.”

XXVI. *An* ACT *for the relief of* Sarah Caldwell.

XXVII. *An* ACT *to incorporate the members of the religious ſociety of* German *Roman Catholics of the church called the* Holy Trinity, *in the city of* Philadelphia.

XXVIII. *An* ACT *for rewarding the perſons concerned in apprehending* George Sinclair, *attainted by out-lawry.*

XXIX. *An* ACT *to grant the ſum of* one hundred and eighty-ſeven pounds ten ſhillings *to Captain* William Roſs, *in conſideration of his ſervices to this commonwealth.*

XXX. *A* SUPPLEMENT *to an act, entituled* " An Act for regulating the fiſhery in the river *Coneſtogoe.*

Which laws were, as uſual, depoſited in the Rolls-Office.

Reſolved, unanimouſly, That the thanks of this Houſe be preſented to the Honorable Speaker, for his aſſiduous, able and impartial attention to the duties of his ſtation.

The Houſe then roſe *ſine die.*

PETER Z. LLOYD,
Clerk of the General Aſſembly.

Philadelphia: Printed by HALL & SELLERS.